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Out of the blue find excites mineral world

MYSTERIOUS mineral with a remarkable baffles scientists was announced by the Natural History Museum yesterday. The news — on the first full day of SET96, informally called national science week — came a year after the stone was first examined at the Natural History Museum in London during a radio show to mark last year's national week of science, engineer-

ing and technology. Under a microscope and exposed to polarising filter, the stone changes from col-ourless to bright blue to lurid purple. Under a more powerful electron micro-scope, it is revealed to be made up of millions of sub-

microscopic crystal fibres. The discoverer was the broadcaster and geologist, Anna Grayson. Yesterday she was stonewalling attempts to link the min-eral with the fictional kryp-

unmanned Superman.
"It could be dangerous in powder form because it is but in lump form it is as

safe as houses," she said. It was while she was presenting a kind of mine roadshow, broadcast from the museum, that she discovered she was keeper of a mystery. "They said 'bring bits in' and as I left that morning I swept a couple of pieces into my handbae including a sample of this mineral, and we discovered

it was new." She first came by the material in romantic fashion. She had met Des Clark, a geomorphologist, who in-vited her back to his place to view his mineral collection. "He stored it in a cardboard box under his bed and it was full of wonderful things, mainly copper and



Anna Grayson and the mystery mineral 'swapped for a pencil with an Arab boy in north Africa' PHOTOGRAPH GRAHAM TURNE

something with an Arab boy when he was doing his PhD in north Africa."

Miss Grayson subsequently married Mr Clark and they went to Morocco on a field trip. To her aston-

was this very small frag-ment of blue mineral, mysterious blue mineral on which he said he had a stall. It seemed to her a kind of

serpentinite, from the deep, "a chunk of ocean floor thrust up, squashed about with lots of water percolatassumed it was a copper fibre is a 10,000th of a name and big enough to mineral, because of the make-up of the stone chalinto a pocket is very rare. ing through it. I had

So far the stone has | lenges scanning electron revealed silicon, aluminium, calcium, magnesium, iron and oxygen. Dr Cressey has described it as "the most strikingly blue mineral ever discovered". Full investigation could go on for years. Each crystal

microscope and X-ray dif-fraction devices alike. Worldwide, about 40 new minerals turn up each year. They are usually too small to be seen with the naked eye, and are already in-cluded in other rocks. A lump of something entirely

new and big enough to slip

New fears on design of reactors

Simon Beavis and Paul Brown

FULL-SCALE safety investiga-tion has been launched at two of Britain's most power stations after an emergency shutdown during refuelling raised fears of an inherent design fault.

The incident occurred at Heysham 2 power station in Lancashire on January 29 when a seven tonne fuel rod became stuck in the reactor

core during refuelling.

A second attempt to lower the fuel assembly into a refuelling channel failed and safety devices automatically shut down the reactor for a

second time. Preliminary investigations found that the fuel channel through which the rod was being lowered had become distorted so that a casing at the top of the fuel assembly

Government safety inspec-tors widened the new safety vanced gas-cooled reactor of the same design in Scotland, until the precise cause of the

incident has been established. Critical to the safety of reactors is the ability to raise and lower the 70ft-long fuel assemblies. If a rod become stuck in the core and coolant is unable to circulate, the fuel can overheat uncontrollably. If the rod breaks, it can fall to

the reactor floor and cause a "melt-down". Describing the incident, the Nuclear Installations Inspectorate said the station remained out of action for 18 days and was only allowed to re-start on condition that its operators. Nuclear Electric, did not refuel it unless the reactor was completely shut

The NII has not had to use



its enforcement powers be-cause Nuclear Electric has the situation on its own," a spokesman for the inspector-

Both the NII and the company admitted that the investigation was trying to deter-mine whether the incident design fault or a freak

A spokesman for Nuclear Electric said that 150 refuellings had been carried out at Heysham since the company was cleared to change rods while the station was still generating power — so-called "on-load refuelling". This was

the first incident of its kind. NII believe there are indication that it was a "one-off" but there are fears in the inresult of the industry's recent record of running the stations at maximum power with resultant high temperatures putting strain on the machines. One source said: "There is a fear that heavy running of the AGRs is caus ing distortion in more than

one station." If the problem cannot be corrected and the industry is forced to shut down the reac-tors for refueling, the eco-nomic viability of the indus-

try will be threatened. After a poor start in life, AGR stations have recently recorded huge increases in output to bring the industry to the brink of profitability. But plans to further increase output will depend crucially on refuelling the stations while they are still generating

Details of the incident at Heysbam, one of seven advanced gas-cooled reactors being lined up for privatisa-tion this summer, has so far been kept secret.
But the scale of the investi-

gation being carried put by Nuclear Electric in conjunc-tion with Scottish Nuclear indicates the safety and eco-nomic implications for the proach their sell-off.

The fuelling process was taking taking place at Hey-sham regularly with 220 fuel recharged every two years.
Of the seven AGRs being

lined up for privatisation this summer only four have been allowed on-load refuelling. Hinkley Point B in Somerset and Hunterston B in Aveshire, Scotland are still being permitted to use the technique because they differ in design. The three others, Dungeness in Kent, Heysham 1, and Hartlepool in Cleveland have never been given

Mandela tells divorce trial of loveless marriage

'Since I came back from jail, Not once has the defendant entered the bedroom whilst I was awake...! was the loneliest man'



HE public humiliation of Nelson Mandela at the hands of his wife, Winnie, was taken yet further yesterday when South Africa's head of state was forced to take the writness stand and testify about bedroom secrets, saying: "I was the loneliest man..."



Winnie Mandela . . . wept when shown love letter

The long-festering relationship between one of the world's most famous married couples erupted into a court-room battle as Mrs Mandela staged a rearguard action to revent the ANC leader from divorcing her.

President Mandela testified to the Johannesburg supreme court how he discovered that when he was given a love let- marriage."



Nelson Mandela . . . set against reconciliation

ter she had written to a youn lawyer, and how she had bro ken down and wept when she was confronted with it.

"My lord, if the entire uni verse tried to persuade me to reconcile with the defendant [Mrs Mandela] I would not." he told the court, insisting that the relationship had bro-ken down irretrievably. "I am his wife was having an affair determined to get rid of this

Disclosing that they had not talked to each other "for cosmetics."

The South African president of the cosmetics. 'exchange of pleasantries" he said that her avowals of affection for him at political rallies were "cosmetic and hypocritical". Mrs Mandela's legal team

presented an extraordinary lefence to the action — insist ing that as a member of the royal house of the Tembu, the state president had to submit himself to tribal mediation to

try to save the marriage.

She is claiming that the "slight tensions" in their relationship are due entirely to public allegations that she was responsible for the murder of the 14-year-old town ship activist, Stompie Sepei. and the killing of a Soweto physician, Dr Abubaker Asvat. She wanted tribal mediation to clear up this

misunderstanding.
In papers before the court, she is demanding half of Mr Mandela's assets if the divorce goes through. The papers show that, on a reported monthly salary of only R16,000 (£2,700), Mrs Mandela is spending R107,000 (£18,500), including more than £1,700 on lawyer.

dent cut a frail figure yester-day when he appeared in the Rand supreme court in Johan-nesburg — the same court-house where his wife stood trial in 1991 in connection with the death of Stompie.

Dressed in a grey suit and watched closely by bodyguards he engaged in smiling banter with his own counsel greeted his estranged wife politely and went on a mini-walkabout of the courtroom during an adjournment, shak-ing hands with the opposing legal team and assuring them he did not take umbrage at their representation of Mrs

But in unguarded moments he appeared tired. It emerged that special arrangements had been made with the presiding judge, President of the Transvaal Mr Justice Eloff, for regular and short adjournments to enable him to leave the room. Mr Mandela is represented in the case by an Afrikaner silk, Wim Tren-gove, who is rated by many as the country's leading trial

The hearing opened with an application by Mrs Mandela's counsel, Ishmael Semenya, for a two-week postponement of the hearing on the grounds that the president had failed to supply Mrs Mandela with details of his financial estate and to facilitate tribal media-tion. In papers before the court Mr Mandela said he wanted the divorce expedited because he had a heavy schedule of state visits abroad and to minimise the embar-rassment of publicity while

Mr Semenya submitted an affidavit which he had just received by fax from Kaiser Matanzima — the former leader of the Transkei home-land whom he described as paramount chief of the Tembu, the Xhosa clan in which Mr Mandela has a posi tion of minor royalty. This said that under customary law the divorce could not be allowed to proceed before mediation had been at-

he was entertaining foreign

dignitaries.

tempted by tribal elders. He said members of the royal house had tried to intervene, but Mr Mandela had refused turn to page 2, column 3





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inside

Traffickers have targetted Britain as a new market for heroin and are importing millions of pounds of the drug

Britain

Chinese military exercises

World News Taiwanese civilians began to fiee Matsu Island, near the site of the latest

Tony Blair is dropping hints about a changed line in Labour's attitude to electoral reform, says Hugo Young

Comment

The Neville brothers of Manchester United are set to emulate the Charltons by playing together for the England team

Mandela

ord 15; Weather 16;

Comment and Letters 8

Obituaries 10

Sketch

Safety in law of diminishing return



Matthew Engel

WO politicians who have controversially menaned in the public prints ere able to return yesterday the calm, safe and obscure aven of a Monday afternoon Ron Davies, the anti-monarchist, was fulfilling his role as shadow Welsh secretary, a vant constitutional function. No one bothered him.

However, Sir Nicholas Ter-minological Inexactitude, the Attorney-General, had to appear for his own brief question

Distressingly, a number of the inquiries came from members whose only legal back-ground was of the barrackroom sort, relating to the once arcane matter of public interest immunity certificates.

Sir Nicholas adopted an attitude that suggested he knew non-lawyers had a place in society, and possibly even within the House of Commons but could not quite remember what it was. It did not quite erase the feeling that here was a man whose authority was in tatters, who would in the long run have looked far more dignified had he opted for

martyrdom. But these were the last, entle breezes of Hurricane Scott which put the wind up the Attorney but failed to fell

The debate has been left in the hands of the spiritual de-scendants of the medieval schoolmen, burling fragme of scripture at each other and getting contradictory frag-

The sense of hopelessnes was enhanced by the St Jude like presence of Tam Daivell. fiddling and fussing with his glasses and finally rising to ask: "Could the House of Com told why the crucial informacould not be passed on to the

barrister in the Matrix Chur

Of course it can't, said Sir Nicholas, don't be absurd. (I paraphrase the orotund phraseology somewhat, but without losing the general

Mr Dalyell appealed to the Speaker. "We seem to be fallen among lawyers, of whom I am

"Is it not the tradition of the House that the Attorney-General and the Solicitor-General have a special obligation to give factual and direct answers? Is there nothing you can do about these lawyers?

There was not. "The Honourable Gentieman has be in the House long enough to crown answer questions as they see fit." She might at leas have sounded regretful. Wasn't that what Scott was al

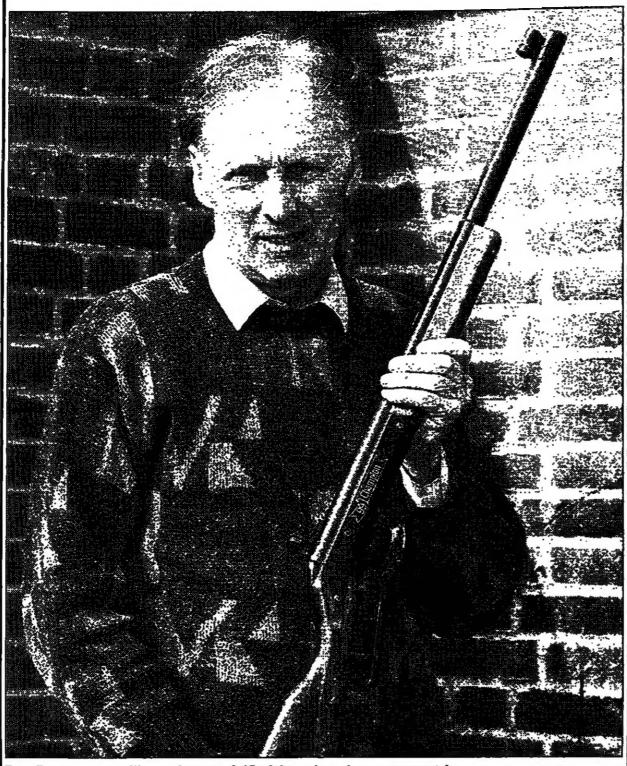
The Welsh Office ministers did give factual and direct answers. These gave some in dication of the extent to which Wales is now in ferment, a flaming hotbed of political

What recent discussions has the Secretary of State for Wales had with the European Commission about subsidiarity?" "None." What represen-tations has he received on the establishment of a Welsh national lottery charities board. "None." What recent representations has he received on the cost of a Welsh plans does he have for constitutional reform? "None. What representations has he received urging him to hold a assembly? Wait a minute.

Four? Four? There are three million people in Wales, many of them thoroughly disputatious, the sort of people who would stand around in a pub and trade quotations from the Scott Report. But it was a telling answer. It blew away the theory that the Welsh Office post room might simply chuck away all the mail. There are two other possible explanations. My own experience is that letters posted in Wales never arrive anywhere. I think the dragon on the stamp does something to the sorting Government is so despi

'Naive' owner admits 'mistake' in letting youngsters know where he stored weapons at his home

Alert on pensioner's guns



Peter Preston, a competition marksman and rifle club member, whose guns were stolen

of shares. The owner, Hong Kong-based Dickson Con-

cepts, will retain the con-

trolling stake. New branches are to

open, beginning with Leeds this autumn, and there are plans to capitalise on the

success of the fifth-floor

restaurant in the Knights-bridge store by opening

similar establishments

Joseph Wan, the company's chief executive, said: "We are poised to expand beyond Knightsbridge with

elsewhere.

'Sloanes' favourite store looks for new horizons in Yorkshire and catering trade

in the near future.

The patronage of the

an important marketing bo-

nus. A sign on the outside

250 napkin rings and designer-label clothes, were uneasy about the plans.

Colin Easby, a Geordie-

Harvey Nichols in £80m flotation to fund new branches

OLITICAL anxiety over gun control was heightened yesterday when it was alleged that a 4-year-old boy arrested in High Wycombe for stealing four rifles and pistols had pre viously handled the weapons at the home of a local

Amid widespread demands for tougher legislation following the Dunblane massacre, Peter Preston, aged 66, who lives in sheltered accom-modation, admitted he had made a "mistake" in letting youngsters know where he stored his guns and that he kept the keys to his firearms cabinet in a hall cupboard.

early reform of the gun laws as the latest case focused concern on who should be The Conservative MP, Michael Colvin. a shotgun owner and captain of the House of Commons shooting eight, insisted there was no

need for wholesale reform. "I agree there is a case for looking to see whether guns should be kept on club premises, but that means they are susceptible to burglary of large hauls of guns," he said. The alert in Buckingham

shire began with a break-in on Friday evening at Mr Preson's home in Chalfont St Peter. He is a competition marksman who holds a licence for five guns. On Saturday a youth an-swering the same description

is the 14-year-old was believed to have opened fire on along Welders Lane in the town. The driver was shocked

Yesterday Thames Valley police drafted in armed officers to back up the search for the missing weapons and at schools in nearby High Wycombe amid fears of fur-

But shortly after 10.30am police on surveillance duty outside a house in High Wycombe detained the 14year-old schoolboy and his companion, aged 16. Two

tol were recovered later. Police were still looking for a 22 pistol last night

As Thomes Vailey police announced an inquiry into the incident, the Home Office confirmed that the frequency with which firearms owners must renew their permits has recently been relaxed from every three years to every

five years. There was no parliamen-tary debate over the Firearms (Period of Certificate Order). the Home Office said, before became law on January 1, 1995. The time between police interviews and home inspecreapons were securely stored had been extended for reasons of "efficiency". The assistant chief consta-

ble of Thames Valley, Tim Davidson, revealed that Mr Preston's other weapons had en confiscated pending the inquiry. But there had been "nothing remarkable" about the licence which he had held since 1959.

Mr Preston, a bachelor and semi-retired cleaner, is a long-standing member of the Wendover Rifle Club who has shot for his county. He admitted he had inadvertently showed his guns to young sters who regularly visited

his home. The 14-year-old had "handled one of the guns when they were out on the bed before Christmas". Mr them. It was too late when saw them come in

"I wish I had put the keys in another place. I didn't think they would do this to let anyone know where guns are kept. [The schoolboy] had asked if he could try out my gun. I said 'no'.

the army between 1947 and 1952, had his gun licence renewed in December when he was interviewed by a police officer from Amersham. Peter Hall, the competi-tion secretary at Wendover Rifle Club, said last night: 'Mr Preston has been one of the top shots in the country He has been a bit naive. It's very sad. He has always been very responsible and a

First night

Verdi upstaged by the Werther

Tom Sutcliffe

Rigoletto and Werther Theatre Royal, Brighton

HOUGH English Touring Opera's Rigoletto is the newcomer for the compa ny's long spring tour, it is its Werther — much criticised when first seen last autumn that is now the more accomplished and interesting of the two shows. The reasons are

musical and theatrical. Robert Chevara's staging of Werther is simple and direct, concentrating sensibly on the natural feelings of the main characters. Geraint Dodd in the title role is not an elegant tenor, but his tortuous "sorrows" are utterly convincing. The awkwardness of his character and manner on stage suit the story perfectly, and Christine Botes makes an equally credible Charlotte, shy, ordinary, rather nervous and horrified at the feelings she finds herself unable to suppress.

Chevara's unpretentious production, with the minimum of scenery but lots of atmosphere and a good use of real water in the stream of the first half set, brings Goethe's story palpably alive.

The casting works very well. Roderick Williams, as the betrayed Albert, manage the perfect blend of niceness and fury, and there were excellent cameos from Julian Jensen and David Kempster Andrew Greenwood, conducting, combines energy and affection with an instinct for

supporting the singing.
If the casting makes ETO's Werther, it destroys its Rigoletto. Opera 80's former staging of this wonderful Verdi, by Richard Jones with David remain a high spot in the his-tory of the renamed company. tempted a sort of deconstructed approach — though in medieval costumes. Charles Edwards's set filled the centre of the stage with a curtained inner stage, a box structure (white to start with, inevitably red after the rape, and woody and draughty for the final scene) perched on a dan-gerous slant, with a gaping crevasse beside it. The setting doesn't make any particular sense, and is specially annoy-ing when Sparafucile climbs across the roof of this box to meet Rigoletto in the second scene, or when Maddalena lie there high up at the front innouement with Rigoletto and

But the charmlessness of Jeffrey Stewart's Duke and the soft-edged Rigoletto of Glen-ville Hargreaves flaws the venture from the start. Stew art was never seductive, and Hargreaves's bile and mixed motivation scarcely emerge until the penultimate scene. Gail Pearson is a promising Gilda who deserves a better context for her efforts. Michael J Pearson, doubling Sparafucile and Monterone (convenient but dramatically destructive), sounded strained and improbable. With such a questionable cast, the conductor Martin Andre might have despaired. Instead he just

Rigoletto and Werther are at the Theatre Royal, Brighton, this week and Lowestoft and Crawley next week.

seemed dull and unmotivated

Mandela's 'loveless marriage'

continued from page 1 to meet them and had failed to accord them "proper

Richard Thomas

ARVEY Nichols favourite high fasb

ion haunt of London's

Sloane set, is floating on the stock exchange to raise

funds for a nationwide ex-

runds for a nationwide ex-pansion programme, start-ing in Yorkshire.

The store — nicknamed Harvey Nicks by aficionados and frequented by the Princess of Wales — hopes to raise £80 million

respect". Mr Trengove told the cour Mr Matanzima was in fact only paramount chief of West-ern Tembuland and it was "inappropriate" for him to "meddle" in the Mandela relationship. The status that he enjoyed was by virtue of an appointment he had held under the apartheid govern-ment and he was regarded by Mr Mandela "as a sell-out in the proper sense of the word". The chief had also competed for Mrs Mandela's affections before her marriage, "but los out to the plaintiff". In the face of protests from Mrs Mandela's counsel that it

was "unprecedented", the settlement from the divorce giving the defence two days prepare arguments for Mr Mandela's disclosure of his essets, but ordering that the matrimonial action proceed.

Called as the first witness President Mandela told the court that he had separated from his wife in April 1992 when he had left their home Confirming that he had issued a statement at the time expressing affection and respect for his wife, he explained: "This is my wife with whom I had in the past shared some of the happiest moments in our lives. I wanted to make the parting as painless as possible, espe-

'The contents of the letter, my lord, were incompatible with a marriage relationship and even if there was a possibility of reconciliation, it confirmed my decision never to reconcile with the defendant'

Later that year, amid gossip that Mrs Mandela was having an affair with a lawyer, Dali Mpofu, a local editor had brought a copy of a love letter written by her to Mr Mpofu which the newspaper was about to publish. Mr Mandela said he had recognised his wife's handwriting and style and it was accurate in details such as the statement that he had not spoken to her for five years. But he had asked a mutual friend, George Bizos, to take a copy to her to check its authenticity. "She did admit

the letter and broke down and wept," said Mr Mandela. "The contents of the letter. my lord, were incompatible with a marriage relationship and even if there was a possibility of reconciliation, it confirmed my decision never

He said he had delayed divorce proceedings because he did not want it to be linked to his wife's trial in the Stompie

– Neison Mandela and you accepted her word. as Dr Asvat is con-

store made a £5 million profit, after losing money

On the shop floor yester

day, the share offer was

welcomed. One assistant -

who preferred to remain

anonymous — said: "I think it's good we are sell-ing shares. I'm sure a num-

ber of our customers would

be interested; after all, it is

one thing to shop here, another altogether to own part of it. The snob value alone would be enormous."

A store spokesman said shares were initially being sold to large institutions,

in that murder?" asked Mr

quietly and not to wash our dirty linen in public". She had rejected the approaches. Asked about the defence claim that it was Tembu custom for tribal mediation in matrimonial disputes, Presi-dent Mandela said: "I respect custom, but I am not a tribalist. I fought as an African nationalist and I have no commitment to the custom of any

Custom was not "mori-bund", he added. "It is a social phenomenon which derelops and changes. For example my father was a polygamist; my mother was one of four wives. But I am not a for cross-examination today.

polygamist. In Tembu custom you normally have a custom-ary marriage and one of the methods of observing them is for a man who wants to get married to waylay a girl as she goes to the river to fetch water and take her home. And the parents will follow. I am not committed to that

kind of custom."
Expressing "shock" at his wife's action in obtaining an affidavit from Chief Matanzima, President Mandela said: "Several times he wanted to visit me in jail and I refused, cause I did not want to be tainted by his reputation." "Is there any way that an intervention by him could save your relationship?" asked Mr Trengove.

"Can I put it simply, my lord? If the entire universe tried to persuade me to reconcile with the defendant, I would not. And least of all from Matanzima.

The president continued: "Ever since I came back from jail, not once has the defendant ever entered the bedroom whilst I was awake. I kept on saying to her, 'Look, men and wives usually discuss the most intimate prob-lems in the bedroom. I have been in jail for a long time. There are so many issues, almost all of them very sensitive, I would like to have the opportunity to discuss with you.' Not once has she ever

"I was the loneliest man during the period I stayed with her." concluded the South African president, to stunned silence in the

important new projects ... | but agreed the store's social | born chef enjoying a £2 cup | certain class of people here and look to the future with cachet would fuel a healthy of coffee at the cafe, is | since we started in 1613," confidence." Last year the market among individuals | doubtful whether the Har | he said. "That's why they vey Nicks ethos - epitomised by Edwina and Patsy in the BBC's Absolutely Fabulous — will sell in the North. "There is a different attitude to price up there.

wall which reads: "By appointment to HRH the You can get away with £15 Prince of Wales, suppliers of household and fancy goods" has been left to fade a pound for turbot here, not and collect grime. This is a shop that knows where its royal bread is buttered. But customers, browsing among the £175 scarves,

The shop assistant agreed. "We have developed a relationship with a

pay over the odds. I'm not sure if Yorkshire is ready. in a round of share offerings from luxury goods shops. Last week, Saks Fifth Avenue, an upmarket New York department

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taxpayer £2 billion a year BENEFITS paid to people employers to declare how many staff make most use of the benefits. doubled in three years to at

Subsidies to low paid cost

least £2.3 billion, writes David

Denis MacShane, Labour MP for Rotherham, says the government figure represents a subsidy of some £100 a year by every taxpayer for employers paying low wages. The MP minute rule bill to require work.

credit recipients was about £3.50. The decisive factor was rather the number of hours the benefits were to get people off benefit dependency and into

A Department of Social Security spokesman said the average hourly pay rate of family

cially because of the children. knew it would be a terrible experience for them and therefore I expressed affec-tion for her. And respect, "So far as Stompie Sepei because I respect her very highly." was concerned you say she as-

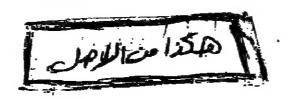
to reconcile with the

cerned, have you ever sus-pected her of being involved

"No, not at all, because they were friends," said the When he decided to go ahead with the divorce he sent senior ANC officials including the minister of sport, Steve Tshwete — to ask her to "settle it amicably and

particular tribe."

courtroom. The hearing was adjourned



'We still despise each other. But we have found a common cause, and it's



Caroline Sullivan

money'

your

Gobfathers of punk hit the comeback trail

GHTEEN years after dissolving in a flurry of acrimony and saliva, the Sex Pistols are back. The band that started punk rock held a press conference yesterday at the 100 Club, central London, scene of their early gigs, to announce plans for a tour and live album this summer.

When singer Johnny Rotten split up the band after their only American tour in 1978, it was a shame he could not have seen himself two decades hence. Given that nostalgia was grounds for death by gobbing during the punk era, he would have been

Now 40, known by his real name of John Lydon and a member in good standing of the lucrative comeback trail.

No, they insisted, they are not being hypocritical by reforming after swearing they would never work together

conditioning system at Heath-row — we'd need a Hoover," Lydon said belching, "We still hate [Matlock]."

The conference was stage-row on Bill Grundy's appearance on Bill Grundy's hot confirm they had been offered £6 million for the tour.

Lydon also attacked the music of the last 20 years, saying nothing worthwhile had



The group in their heyday, with Sid Vicions third from left

again. They have simply t ten all that From the tone of part of the press conference, Lydon and former colleagues Steve Jones. Paul Cook and Glen Matlock could almost be a 1979 heroin overdose. "His any middle-aged band hitting ashes got spilled into the air

managed in a way that would changed their minds.

No, Lydon, Cook and Jones
are not eating humble pie by firm Poole Edwards invited the Beverly Hills Cricket patching things up with basseleveryone from the NME to earning from the 19-date non, Sid died without leaving Club, he seems to have forgot ist Matlock, who was sacked Hello! the place was decked European tour, which come any naff demo tapes for the with Union Jacks, and transvestite waitresses served bacon rolls.

The assembly was warmed up with a broadcast of the Pistols' expletive-laden 1976 appearance on Bill Grundy's Today show. How young they offered £6 million for the tour.

the flesh a few minutes later. Lydon has remained tonsorbyton has remarked tonsor-ially true to the punk spirit, but his bleached, mangled hair was rudely shown up by the sleekness of his red and white leisure jacket. Conspicuous by his absence was charismatic former manager Mal-colm McLaren, who has not

the group since being sued over royalties 10 years ago. The four, who have worked on individual musical pro-jects since the Pistols, seemed delighted to be able to trade insults with the press. Asked whether they still despised each other. Lydon crowed: 'With a vengeance, but we've

been on speaking terms with

it's your money." How much will they be (they play London, Glasgow Belfast and Dublin on, respec

been produced, and the Sex Pistols were returning to spare us "all those trashy little pop stars you have got". But he admitted he was de-

pressed about "all those ger atrics that'll turn up. I hope at Finsbury Park it rains and they all get their wheelchair stuck in the mud." There will not be many

rehearsals, he said. "There' no need. You know thes you play them better as well." Will the reunion be perma nent? "It's highly likely we'll beat the crap out of each other in the first three seconds onstage," Lydon drawled, putting paid to the They have no new songs. It seems that, unlike John Lennuman macnine

survivors to capitalise on.

Gobbets

God save the Queen a fascist regime made you a moron a potential H Bomb God save the queen she ain't no human being there is no future in England's dreaming don't be told what you want don't be told what you need there's no future no future for you

When there's no future how can there be sin? we're the flowers in the dustbin we're the poison in your

Blunkett sanctions pupil opt-out

John Carvel Education Editor

olds would be taken out of school to spend much of the week at a further education college or on the factory floor under controversial Labour propos-als unveiled in the Guardian today by David Blunkett, the

shadow education secretary.
"It is time to recognise that young people who have be-come disaffected in their final years of compulsory educa-tion may get a better chance to make something of their lives if they are encouraged to take up vocational opportunities outside the traditional en-vironment of the school," he says in an article in Guardian Education. Mr Blunkett's plan is in-

tended to address mounting concern about tens of thou-sands of youngsters who leave school without gaining tion and who are ill-equipped for employment of any sort. Earlier this month Chris Woodhead, the chief inspec-tor of schools, identified the under-achievement of white working-class boys as "one of the most disturbing problem within the whole education

system".
The Labour plan has been designed to escape some of the criticism from teacher unions and local authorities which greeted leaks of similar recommendations due to be published later this month by Sir Ron Dearing, the Govern-ment's chief curriculum

Doug McAvoy, general sec-retary of the National Union of Teachers, said it would forcefully resist Sir Ron's plan for low-achieving pupils to be allowed to become "semi-detached" from school at 14 and pursue vocational amounted to tampering with the statutory minimum leav-

ing age, he warned. According to Mr Blunkett's version of the scheme, underperforming pupils aged 14 and 15 would stay on the school roll but would spend much of

we're the future, your future | Women Teachers, said the | page 10.

scheme had been tried by the Inner London Education Authority in the 1970s.

"One of the dangers is that it could be seen as a sink reference, labelling children who do not prosper at school and dumping them on further education colleges. We wish

the colleges every success."

Under a plan for education from 14 to 19 which Labour is due to publish later this week, all students would receive extensive work experience, but those who were "significantly disaffected with the school system should have the chance to follow part of their studies in further education colleges which work with local businesses".

Mr Blunkett says: "We must make the compulsory leaving age at 16 a practical reality rather than a rule that is too often broken by persis-

'We must make the leaving age a reality rather than a rule often broken by persistent truancy

tent truancy." He was impressed by an ex-periment at Glaisdale second-ary school in Nottingham where all 14 and 15-year-old pupils were offered the chance to study for NVQs at

local colleges of further David Higgins, the head teacher, said about half the 240 pupils in this age range took the vocational option, studying subjects such as en-gineering, bakery, hairdress-ing, business administration, art and design

The initiative improved motivation and cut truancy, but it was limited to Friday afternoons and was not targeted at under-achievers.

"I stress that we do this in addition to the full range of GCSEs," he said. "This is not a selective programme. Any child can get 9 GCSEs as well as an NVQ."

The pupils not going to an FE college on Friday after-noons could choose from an their time studying at a local college or company for National Vocational Qualifications in practical job-related subjects.

Last night, Nigel de Gruchy, general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Sch information technology course at the school, community service or outdoor pur-

Ex-Pistols' half-cocked careers

Bank admits forecasting errors

The superannuated rebels who swapped anarchy in the UK for holidays in the sun

City eyes rate cut as governor

HE City was last night put on alert for a fresh cut in the cost of bor-

rowing in the coming months after Eddie George, the Governor of the Bank of England, its forecasts for inflation in

admitted that he had been its next quarterly report, due

Speaking in Sweden. Mr neth Clarke when the two George confessed that he had men meet to discuss interest

heen "fairly consistently rates.

over-pessimistic" about the prospects for inflation and overruled Mr George's advice

that it would damage the on monetary policy, and econ-

says he was 'too pessimistic'

most successful post-Pistols career. The next Public Image Ltd, which had 12 hit singles between 1978 and 1992.

During that time, Lydon moved to New York and then Los Angeles, where he lives with his wife, Nora.

OHN Lydon has had the | The former threat to civilisation now spends his days pottering between his home studio and the beach.

> Glen Matlock, after being dismissed from the band for being "a mummy's boy", formed a series of short-lived groups, including the Rich Kids and the Spectres.

consistently overdone". Analysts said Mr George's com-ments reflected a marked soft-

ening of his stance following

would be seized upon by Ken-

Bank's credibility if its cau- omists now see the door open | Economics to deny that the ing her toon was "substantially and for a fourth post-Budget Bank had an in-built defla- margin."

He went to ground in west London, but a couple of years ago, wrote an autobi-ography. I Was A Teenage Sex PistoL

Matlock is about to release a solo album on Oa-sis's label, Creation Records. Oasis are said to 'revere" him.

Steve Jones emigrated to Los Angeles in the early 1980s after a band he had formed with Paul Cook, the Professionals, failed to

revive the economy. Al-though some analysts believe

that the scope for further interest rate cuts is limited, the

weakness of industry, the reluctance of consumers to

spend and the unexpected rise

are putting pressure on the Chancellor to provide a fur-

Stephen Hannah, chief economist at Japanese firm IBJ, sald Mr George's com-

ments should be seen as a "massaging of market views"

expectations to a place where

Mr George used his lecture

ther stimulus.

trouble the charts. He culti-vated a drug habit before cleaning up and forming a band, the Neurotic Outsiders, with John Taylor formerly of Duran Duran.

Paul Cook became a jobbing drummer. He is the Sex Pistol who has appeared most recently on Top Of The Pops Last summer he drummed for Edwyn Collins on the hit A Girl Like You.

means to securing "sustained growth of activity and

The Bank has been stung by

the criticism that its hawkish

approach to inflation means

rates being higher than war-ranted by the state of the

Mr George said that in his policy advice to the Chancel-lor "we deliberately set out to avoid taking risks with the in-

"This we are obliged to do

ground of the UK's unhappy

reduction in base rates to tionary bias, adding that it revive the economy. Al- sought low inflation as a

in unemployment last month | that it is in favour of interest

on rates. He added that the at the margin on the side of governor was "getting market caution."

they will accept another rate in order to build up policy cut".

to the Stockholm School of track record. But we are talk-Economics to deny that the ing here of a bias at the

Caroline Sullivan

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Larry Elliott

Economics Editor

This is Taki the Victim, a man who is on the run from the world, who is so paranoid about his security he carries a gun — unbeknown to his aristocratic hosts — to every society party he attends (except in London where he cannot acquire an arms license). He goes, in his own words. "armed to the teeth".

first direct 06:30 Ian Francis enjoys his breakfast and settles his Visa bill. 11:15 Jake O'Sullivan teases his mother as she asks about her mortgage. 23:30 Bob Sparks wakes with

a start and calls to pay

his gas bill.



3.4 649

Hundreds of millions of pounds of Class A drug imported as Customs success in seizures has led to big increase in 'wholesale' price

Heroin dealers target 'lucrative' UK

Weak controls at borders ease smugglers' task

NTERNATIONAL traffickers have targeted Britain as a new market for heroin and are importing hundreds of millions of pounds of the Class A drug. Customs and Excise said yesterday. The traffickers have be-

come interested because her-oin sold in the UK now sells at a higher "wholesale" price than the United States or any

other European country.
"All the evidence, Customs reports from those close to the users, points to a massive increase in the volume of heroin." said Dick Kellaway,

vestigation officer, yesterday.
The amount of beroin seized by Customs last year rose by 80 per cent to more than 1.1 tonnes — worth £115 million in street value.

supplier-led in the sense that heroin is being imported in order to create a market. Most of the heroin seized in

Drug Seizures



Europe from Turkey," said Mr Kellaway. "Several specially made concealments have been found deep inside commercial vehicles." Several figure would reflect a 125 per cent increase.

One in 10 full time teles. commercial vehicles which have already crossed seven or eight national frontiers be-fore reaching the UK."

Ministers and police shied away yesterday from predict-ing a "heroin epidemic" when seizure figures but did cite figures released by Kenneth evidence of a change in the Clarke, the Chancellor, out-

Mr Kellaway said that ensupply and consequently kent prices higher in Britain than dsewhere in Europe where there had been a general lowering of heroin prices. "We are in some ways the victims of our own success," he said. The more we stop the more they want to try and get it into Britain."

Customs officers say that Britain has become a premium market with a kilogram selling uncut for £20,000 | 1,125 jobs — dropping to 4,000 at a "wholesale" level. At staff by 1989.

dealer level this becomes about 260 to 280 a gram with an individual two-hit paper

Much of the heroin is be lieved to come from Turkey Countries such as Romania, Bulgaria and the former Yu-

One further development is that Turkish traffickers are Edinburgh and Glasgow.

Another factor in the drug

covery outside of Scotland of ranquilliser Termazepam for

Tony Newton, the Cabinet minister responsible for coordinating the anti-drug cam paign said that there was cause for concern in the

drugs, but we have to recog-nise that reducing the supply of illegal substances ultirially among young people.

The figures show that Customs seized a record 56.6 tonnes of drugs last year com-pared to 51 tonnes in 1994. A total of 2,323 people were ar-

The combined amount of cannabis seized throughout the year was 52.5 tonnes, an 11.1 per cent increase, worth

The amount of cocaine seized was 940.7 kgs, down 57.3 per cent, with a street value of £109.5 million. However customs pointed out that the 1994 figure was distorted

Customs and Excise are to go over the next three years as part of plans to remove another 12,000 posts in the Trea-sury, writes David Hencke. A total of 2,564 jobs will go reducing staff levels from 25,429 to 22,865, according to

lining the Treasury's expenditure plans for the next three The Inland Revenue is also to see a huge cut in staff from 55,300 this year to 48,560 by 1999. This cut of 6,740 will fall

almost entirely on full-time The Treasury which has already lost a third of its staff since 1990 is to lose another 215 jobs over the next three years. The Valuation Office, which sets house values for council tax purposes, will lose



A user injects heroin which is now worth £20,000 a kilogram at 'wholesale' level, up to £80 a gram at dealer level and £10 for a two-hit 'wrap' on the street

'Old buzz' back in fashion **Cannabis author jailed**

Alex Bellos traces the changing pattern of consumption in Britain's inner cities

F YOU wanted to "score" heroin in Sheffield 10 chester drugs agency Life-tine, believes the main facyears ago, you would drive over the Pennines to pounds to get you through

Today you don't need to and improving quality. He leave the city. Heroin use has spread from one counulation" of traditional trafcil estate in north Sheffield to several other socially deprobably has a small-time dealer, this time seiling by price. You buy a £5 or £10 wrap, or however much you need immediately.

This pattern of changing consumption was mirrored in conurbations all over Britain, said Harry Shapiro at the Institute for the Study of Drug Dependence. His recent research on her-oin use was based on information from outreach workers and drug agencies.

But as ecstasy use has be

drive over the Pennines to your regular dealer in Manchester. You would buy a bag based on weight — maybe a few grammes costing several hundred stayed steady until three years ago, when it began to boom, pushing prices down

> ficking routes caused by po litical instability in place mer Yugoslavia and Eastern Europe. Most of heroin's new re

cruits conform to the "junkie" image — injecting users on the poverty line, possibly homeless with mental health problems. But there is growing anec-dotal evidence that recreational drug users are tak-ing to it. For much of the generation that began tak-ing ecstasy in the late 1980s, heroin was an unat-

tractive drug symbolised by the advertising campaign Heroin Screws You Up.

come mainstream — an es-timated 500,000 people take it every week — and as reg-ular users look for a new buzz, some have decided to dabble in the older drug. These young people are more likely to smoke it or

snort it. Often it is sold simply as "brown", to avoid the unfashionable connotations of intravenous use. Being able to buy it at £5 or £10 a shot makes it espe-cially attractive.

fited from the acceptance of drugs that mass use of echas brought, accord ing to several drugs agen 2000 in Edinburgh, said the atmosphere in many Scottish clubs had changed dramatically recently, as ravers bored with ecstasy have

witched to cocaine.
"You hear that cocaine is "If that's true its dangerous; at that price it is enConviction for 'incitement' has angered campaigners, Duncan Campbell reports

book explaining how to grow cannabis was yesincitement, the first time the law has been used in this way. The judge ordered all copies to be destroyed.

Civil liberty campaigners

last night expressed concern at the iailing of someone for publishing freely available Michael Marlowe, aged 51, tenced to 12 months at

Worcester crown court for marketing and selling nearly 500 copies of Tricameral Sen-Maria Warner, Marlowe, of Flaxley, Gloucestershire, was also convicted of harves his own plants. An appeal is

to be lodged.

Judge Michael Mott told
him: "This was a particularly blatant incitement to people to commit crime when you remained hidden behind a Marlowe advertised the 126-

write to Wild Thing distributors at a PO box in Worcester In October 1994, Marlowe was raided by police who

seized his customer database names and addresses This list was passed to local forces who raided 20 people who had purchased the book. One was a teacher from Tunbridge Wells, Kent, who had intended to grow a small amount of cannabis in a sauna room.

Last month, at Worcester crown court, prosecuting counsel Philip Bown said of Marlowe who was charged with incitement to produce cannabis: "This men is a

Andrew Sharpe, defending,

Met pays student £7.500 for

which uses domestic technol

ogy and common gardening materials, is one of 33 similar

publications on sale in book-

purchasers were invited to

said: "He has gone over the line in what is permissable in encouragement. It's the first time a prosecution has been brought dealing with the pub-lication of a book on a cultiva-

Evidence that other similar cannabis-growing books had been in wide circulation for many years was deemed inadmaking his first book-publishing venture, was convicted on

Marlowe said before sen-tence that he believed canna-bis should be decriminalised We feel we've been looted by the state for a self-indulgence that has no victims."
The director of Liberty.

very rare in any country for people to go to prison merely

A spokesman for the Mick Marlowe defence campaign said: "Using this archaic charge of incitement which has not been used to suppress a book for over 100 years has very serious implications.

The book will now be republished in Amsterdam, with the words "Not for sale

Judges told of 'malign influence' on West trial

Duncan Campbell **Crime Correspondent**

ENSATIONALIST press coverage and media conracts with witnesses exerted a 'malign influence' the trial of Rosemary West, the Court of Appeal was told yesterday. All of the 10 murders for

which she was convicted could have been committed hy her husband. Fred, acting

Richard Ferguson QC. applying for leave to appeal on tice Newman. The possibility

on a further seven it was virwho was convicted last November at Winchester crown court of the murders of 10 young women and girls, did not attend the hearing. Before meeting his wife,

Fred West had murdered, raped, assaulted and harassed young women, Mr Ferguson told Lord Taylor, the Lord Chief Justice, sitting with Mr Justice Mitchell and Mr Jus-

behalf of Mrs West, said that of Fred West being solely restant the evidence on three counts of murder was tenuous and which Rosemary West hung since the first murder in 1971 linked with "the House of to have lied in court about Horror" and had been described as a nymphomaniac. There was a danger that journal tenuous and the prejudicial publicity.

Mr Ferguson said the three main arguments were that the media had exercised a 'malign influence" before and during the trial; that grossly prejudicial evidence was allowed; and that the jury had not been properly direc-ted on the evidence by the trial judge.

He argued that there had been an abuse of process in allowing the trial to go ahead because of the lapse of time

about Mrs West's sexual pro clivities should not have been

allowed. Three of the charges, including those of the murder of Mrs West's daughter. Heather, and step-daughter Charmaine, should have been severed from the other seven

Referring to pre-trial coverage of the case. Mr Ferguson said: "It's all highly sensational and highly unfortunate." Mrs West had been

One story suggested that she from her story and another referred to her as a booker. Prosecution witnesses had

made agreements with the media for sums of up to six figures, he said. Clearly there was a temptation for them to exaggerate what had hap-pened. "Put bluntly: the more lurid the account, the more valuable the contract." One witness who had agreed a contract was shown

nalists attending the trial could discuss the evidence with the witnesses with whom they had agreements. The hearing continues

licitor, last night denied sug-gestions by her relatives that she had not wanted the appeal to take place. He said she had instructed him to continue, although she had been unwilling to attend court because of the likely media attention.

assault and imprisonment Clare Dyer

HE Metropolitan Police

yesterday agreed to pay an Irish student £7,500 compensation and legal costs in an out-of-court settlement for assault and false imprison-Moran, aged 32, Paul

claimed he was stopped and questioned by PCs Keith Lloyd and Ian Whitney as he left his central London house at midnight on December 23, 1992. He said he was called "an Irish c**t", thrown against

his front door, had his hand smashed against a wall, was struck forcibly and thrown into a police van where one He was then taken to Marylebone police station, searched and unlawfully kept in a cell until 2.30am.

The Police Complaints Authority upheld his complaint of unlawful arrest and detention. The station's custody of ficer and the arresting officers were strictl admonished, and the Met an mitted liability for assault and false imprisonment.



"I'll never forget my mother's face when I told her."

"I was stunned to hear that I had cancer. At my age. I just couldn't accept it. The fear just grew and grew, like the cancer itself. That changed when I began to come to the Marie Curie Hospice Centre.

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Hint of support for Alternative Voting system regarded as step in right direction by reform advocates

Blair shift cheers Lib Dems

Howard yields over rejected **EU race law**

Patrick Wintour, Chief

O-OPERATION be main opposition parties moved a step closer yester-day when senior Liberal Democrats gave an unexpectedly warm welcome to reports that the Labour leader, Tony Blair, is willing to counte nance a shift away from first-past-the-post for elections to the Commons.

Mr Blair is said to be sympathetic towards the Alterna-tive Vote system, but it was being stressed yesterday that he had reached no conclu-

a variant of which was supported in 1993 by Labour's in-ternal working party on electoral systems, could not be described as proportional representation, which Mr Blair believes hands too much power to small parties.

Labour is already commit-

ted to holding a referendum on the electoral system for the Commons, but Mr Blair has been unconvinced of the need

News of his fresh approach trailed in advance of the weekend Liberal Democrat conference — was greeted by senior Liberal Democrats yes-terday as a sign of flexibility. One senior Liberal Democrat closely involved in the diaclosely involved in the dia-

suggests Labour is openly in a | majority to be elected. If no | fluid position. Before we were in an unsustainable position candidate has an overall maority of first preferences, the lowest placed candidate drops in favour of a referendum, but to the extent he had a perout with his preferences transferred. The process consonal opinion on the subject, he was opposed to change." The Liberal Democrat MP tinues until one candidate achieves an overall majority. One of Mr Blair's closest al-

added: "AV is not acceptable as a system for us, but we regard any movement by Mr more open to AV. Blair, or sign that he is thinking these constitutional issues through, as encourag-ing and conducive to

dialogue." Under AV, instead of voting The Conservatives would for one candidate in a single-member constitutency, the voter lists the candidates in have won 11 fewer seats, Labour would have won one order of preference. A candi-

contrast, would have boosted | John Prescott and chief whip Liberal Democrat seats in 1992 to at least 90. Labour's internal review

said AV retained constitu ency accountability, worked on the clear principle that the winner had to have more than 50 per cent of the votes and allowed voters both to also said his mind is now vote for their first choice and then, in their second preference, to vote to stop the politi-cal party they most disliked. Some Labour MPs want electoral reform to coincide with the general election after A study for the Rowntree Trust of 9.600 electors found the impact of AV on the 1992 elections would have been next, but no detailed thinking

has been done. The Parliamentary Labour more and and the Liberal Democrats 10 more. Most proportional voting systems, by cluding the deputy leader

Donald Dewar, to review shadow cabinet elections The earlier the election, the

more likely it is that some sit-ting Shadow Cabinet mem-bers may be thrown off, including the shadow health escretary, Harriet Harman.

● In our report yesterday of Paddy Ashdown's speech to the Liberal Democrats spring conference, a typographical error in one paragraph changed the meaning of par of his speech. The paragraph should have read: "It ends in policies which punish the sin ner but ignore the sin."

Hugo Young, page 9

Stephen Bates in Brussels

the Home Secretary. pressure today and agree to sign an EU declaration against racism and xenophobia which he rejected last

The council of home affairs and interior ministers, meetsented with a slightly amended declaration which amended declaration which would give Britain more lee-way for interpretation, but European officials insist it is almost unaltered from what could have been agreed last

Then, Mr Howard outraged fellow ministers by displaying his Eurosceptic creden-tials and rejecting proposals which would have co-ordinated national legislation to make it an offence to incite discrimination, violence or racial hatred, or to distribute xenophobic manifestos.

One of the items in the declaration would have made it a criminal offence to deny the reality of the Jewish holo-caust during the Second World War.

The Home Secretary told his colleagues at that meeting that he would not be lectured by them, and claimed that Britain already had adequate

The decision discomfited ministers, with Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, saying that Britain was prepared to agree a common position and wanted to be positive over the issue. Since then Mr Howard, who is Jewish, has come under pressure from Jewish groups in Brit-ain to agree to the declaration in full along with the 14 other

member states.
Glyn Ford, the Labour MEP for Greater Manchester East, said: "Finally the British govit would be indefensible not to paign to stamp out racism." British officials in Brussels

suggested the declaration was still not finally agreed, and argued that its wording had been changed so that Britain would not have to alter its existing legislation against rac-ism before signing up. It is likely that the Government will still reject proposals go-ing through the European Parliament for an international year against racism in

At today's council, ministers will seek to resolve the impasse over Europol, the cross-border police intelligence gathering agency, whose inauguration has been delayed by British opposition to the use of the European Court of Justice to solve dis-

Britain fears row with US over widening of beef hormones ban

DRITAIN was isolated in | edge there is consumer resistance to such meat, night in opposing an extendal which has been banned in sion of the community's ban on hormones in beef for fear of antagonising the United States which wants to export hormone-treated meat to the EU, writes

The 14 other member states endorsed the existing ban on the use of hormones to increase weight gain of beef cattle and the spread of the ban to artificial drugs such as the so-called angel dust, despite a looming confrontation at the World Trade Organisation with the US, Canada, Australia and New Zealand.

Tony Baldry, the agricul-

ture minister, was unable to say whether the Government backed the import of

the EU since 1988. Mr Baldry, said the decision was "not very good dip-lomacy. It will make negoti-ations with the US more difficult."

British officials in Brussels insisted that the strengthening of the ban was not sustainable in the light of scientific evidence that the natural hormones allowed in the US are not harmful to human health. The decision extends the

existing ban to cover beta agonist drugs like angel dust previously allowed for use in medical treatments. It also increases penalties for farmers trading in illegal hormones and steps up inspections.

Labour HQ 'broke rules on ballot'

Seumas Milne

ABOUR'S national executive was yesterday accused by one of its ongest-serving members of being unfair and prejudiced against a union factory convenor, who is seeking a rerun of the contested parlinmentary selection ballot in Swindon North.

In a statement to the High Court in London. John Evans, a former ally of Neil Kinnock and an engineering union-sponsored MP, also accused the NEC of breaking party rules by voting last month to impose a candidate in the marginal seat.

The executive's decision to appoint its own candidate divided Tony Blair and his deputy, John Prescott -- who fa-voured a new ballot -- for the first time since the pair were elected in 1994. Jim D'Avila, convenor at

uthor jaile.

Rover's Swindon plant, is tak-ing legal action to secure a reballot for the Swindon North nomination, won last Septem-ber by Michael Wills, a television producer and sometime adviser to the shadow chan-

That result was not en-dersed by Labour's NEC. after a party report found that | Jim D'Avila . . . High Court there "may have been tam- battle to win selection rerun | Sackville.

cided by 14 votes to 10 not to reballot because of divisions in the Swindon party and fear of further bad publicity.

In an affidavit to the court. Mr Evans said that decision had been influenced by preju-dice. "All the factors pointed to a rerun of the ballot as the proper course of action," he said.

But in another affidavit Tom Sawyer, Labour's general secretary, said there was no reasonable basis for the NEC not to select the candi-



pering with the votes" in a come across such personal ac-"fundamentally flawed" pro-cedure. But the executive de-in disputes of this kind.

Alan Wilkie. QC, representing the Labour Party, said Mr Wills had done nothing wrons and was outraged. David Bean QC, for Mr D'Avils — who is backed by the Amal-gamated Engineering and Electrical Union -- argued that divisions in the constituency had been orchestrated by those responsible for the original flawed selection

procedure. Yesterday's hearing was be fore Judge Sir John Vinelott, who told Labour in January to rerun the Swindon hallot or return to court to justify its decision. He said the imposition of a candidate risked deepening divisions.

Davey Hally, newly-elected president of the AEEU, said

yesterday that an independent body, such as the Electoral Reform Society, should be put in charge of Labour parliamentary selections to avoid similar controversies.

Ruth Kelly, a former Guardian reporter, has been selected by Labour to fight the Conservative-held marginal seat of Bolton West. Ms Kelly, who joined the Bank of England in 1994, was chosen from a shortlist of six for the seat, represented by the Home



Michael Wills . . . won Swindon contest after 'flawed' procedure PHOTOGRAPHS: FRANK MARTIN | Britain Ministers acknowl- | Leader comment, page 8

Rifkind retreat on referendum

Michael White Political Editor

ENIOR Tory Euro-scep-tics last night stepped up their campaign against deeper European integration as the Foreign Secre-tary. Malcolm Rifkind, backed away from his earlier suggestion that a future referendum on Britain's options Michael White. would not be binding on Parliament.

in evidence to the Commons select committee on for-eign affairs Mr Rifkind told MPs that his remarks on Sunday during a Dimbleby interview on LWT had been misimerpreted.

Though previous referen-dums had been legally dremed advisory only - to protect the constitutional supremacy of Parliament practice that they would accept the outcome", he

As MPs manoeuvred ahead of Thursday's debate on Mr Rukind's IGC white paper 14 senior Tory MPs, including Norman Lamont and Jona-than Aitken, sent the Foreign Secretary un open letter prowasing limits on the powers of tne European Parliament; an end to the practice of appointpeun Commission when they single currency project — "to away control over economic continue behaving like politi- create a country called policy-making and decimate

MPs divided over right question to ask

to see asked in a second Euro-pean referendum and you quickly discover why White-hall is nervous about the subject. They come up with such different answers. writes John Redwood, for exam-

ple, shares Sir James Gold-smith's view that the single currency is too narrow a focus. He would prefer something closer to: "Are you happy with Europe as the kind of free trade area envisaged when Britain first joined or would you prefer greater integration?"

Staff of Labour shadow foreign secretary Robin Cook

port to farmers; giving man-agement of fish stocks back to

national governments; and

overhauling the EU budget formula to reduce the UK

At the same time John Red-

wood, the former Tory leader-ship challenger, attacked both

the motivation behind the

contribution.

Ask MOST MPs exactly that the single currency is the single currency. At the what question they'd like becoming a reality, do you to see asked in a second Euro want to be part of it?" is one or three years' time it could option. Peter Temple-Morris, a

Europhile Tory, offers a more loaded version: "Do you agree with the Government's decision that it is in the national interest to be part of a single currency?" Or, even more drastic: "Do you want to be part of the European Union or to leave it?"

Labour's Denis MacShane, pro-EU MP for Rotherham, suggests: "Given the agree-ment between HMG and its EU partners, do you agree that Britain should continue

in membership of the Euro-pean Union?". He argues: "You can't narrow it down to cians, not officials; abolition | Europe" regardless of the | foreign exchange reserves. of food price fixing, replacing high economic and political it with a system of direct support to farmers; giving maniplain how it would work in

practice. He warned the Prime Minister that it would be "very foolish" to press ahead with a single currency in the face of

heavy opposition from Euro-sceptic Cabinet members. Mr Redwood said a singlecurrency Europe would strip

moment it's the pound, in two or three years' time it could be a common army or fish." Veteran pro-European Lib-eral Democrat, Sir Russell Johnston, says it would be fairly easy to devise a question about currency. It would be harder to ask such questions as: "Do you believe that for-eign and defence policy should be run by the European Com-mission or by HMG?"

Bill Cash, backbench Tory sceptic, agrees the question would have to "deal with the transfer of powers away from the UK government, parlia-ment and people. It would cover the single currency and central bank, foreign and defence policy. That's essential."

"It is a decision of such mag mentarians must ask the people expressly on this issue We are not elected to Parliament to give the country

Mr Rifkind is preparing the cabinet paper expected to open the way to an eventual plebiscite.

Britzin to avoid rejoining

Tactics and timing crucial in staging vote on Britain's future in Europe

about a referendum again? Pecause John Major's cabinet is edging towards promis-ing one if Britain looks like joining a single European

But that's years away? Yes and no. The European tricht. Commission will decide as But the IGC is quite sepaearly as 1998 which EU states are eligible to join under the strict monetary criteria



Major wants to placate his Euro-sceptic wing — and Sir James Goldsmith — ahead of the forthcoming inter-governmental conference (IGC) to review progress since Maas-

rate from the single currency issue?

Yes. But economic and monetary union (EMU) can-not be separated from deeper | Timing and the exact of political union. Sceptics say EMU is basically a political concept, which is why it is a bad economic idea.

Kenneth Clarke disagrees? Yes, the Chancellor believes that, if there's a strong euro, Britain will not want to be left outside, and it won't mean a loss of sovereignty. That degree of suspicion as sumes that there would but by 1993 she was saying only be a referendum if the cother. Talk of him resigning Government had decided in was by then ratired. orther. Talk of him resigning | Government had decided in over the decision is fanned by | favour and was determined

Why is everyone talking agreed in the 1991 Maastricht his enemies, not his friends. about a referendum again? Treaty. In the short term Mr But he is increasingly iso lated in Cabinet. Is Labour also divided? Of course, but Tony Blair is

content to let Major take the lead. In 1975 Harold Wilson borrowed Tony Benn's idea for a referendum to swing vot-ers behind British membership of the EEC. The crossparty Yes campaign won by a 2-1 majority.

Timing and the exact question. Goldsmith's Referendum Party is calling for the ques-tion to be based on the Maastricht "federalist" agenda, the hallot to be on election day, plus a Speaker's conference to decide the exact wording. He

to manipulate a Yes result? Would a referendum be binding or merely advisory? In theory no referendum can be binding. In practice

they are. Wasn't Mr Major against a referendum in 1993 as "alien to our traditions" and crypto-fascist? That quote is actually Att

lee talking to Churchill. But

most top politicians do not like the device when in power. It restricts their freedom of manoeuvre. Margaret Thatcher opposed Labour's three referendums in the 1970s, on Europe and on Welsh and Scottish devolu-

Michael White



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Right now, if you replace your central heating boiler with one of the latest condensing types, you'll receive £100 cashback." A tidy sum by anyone's reckoning. But nothing

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And, as well as saving money, you'll also be helping to save the environment.

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Bonn criticises Paris

for its defence plans

SIMMERING tension between France and Germany over Na-to's future and European defence was exposed yesterday when Bonn told Paris that its thinking on security was out of time and that it would resist French attempts to dilute the transationtic In a speech outside Bonn, Werner Hoyer, the German official

headed by the United States.

Mr Hoyer's speech revealed German reservations and frustrations about President Jacques Chirac's penchant for going it

trations about President Jacques Chirac 5 penemant for going a alone on military matters.

"The reform ideas that French defence minister [Charles] Millon recently announced do not agree with Germany's ideas," Mr Hoyer said. "We clearly reject ideas that would end up replacing Nato's integrated command structure and will speak out against every measure that could even give the impression of driving a wedge into the transatlantic relationable."

US court orders commerce department to stop Italy's use of illegal driftnets in the Mediterranean

Mafia fishing fleets face trade ban

John Hooper in Rome

HILE the European Union's fisheries commissioner, Emma Bonino, has been reading the riot act to British trawlermen. her own country has been told it could face a \$1 billion a year trade ban for over-fishing the

Last month a US judge concluded that Italian boats were defying an international ban on the use of huge plastic-filament driftnets and ordered the department of commerce to enforce a US law imple-menting the ban. This would mean stopping Italian fish imports unless Rome complies. According to US sources. Italian officials have pleaded that much of the driftnet fleet is beyond the reach of government enforcement because it is a recent Food and Agriculture Organisation report said the main area of illegal fish-

is controlled by organised

Steily's Cosa Nostra and other mañas in Puglia, Calabria and the Naples area are known to have used local fishing fleets to transport contra-

name suggests, are left to drift, unattached to a vessel. are used by Italian fishermen to catch swordfish and tuna. but they also trap numerous

complied. The EU enacted its own ban four years ago.

Mrs Bonino, in London

"Given the fragility and biological importance of the Mediterranean Sea, the continued use of this gear in this area is viewed by many as a matter of considerable international concern," the report added.

Britain had been ex-

part of the money was there but the national part - the matching funds - was not available. She said the European element - estimated to be

about £12 million - was

responsible for European Union policy, rejected French proposals for reforming Europe's security and signalled opposition to any attempt to do away with the Nato command structure law of their own country and the rest of the world".

His ruling could severely embarrass Italy's president, Oscar Luigi Scalfaro, who is due to pay a state visit to the United States next month.

Once the US commerce department has formally identi-fied Italy as a violator of the driftnet ban. Rome will have only 90 days in which to satisfy the US authorities that its fleet has complied.

Otherwise it faces an embargo on the import of all its fish and fish products.
Additional sanctions would

be imposed if the import ban failed to have an effect. A spokesman for the US embassy in Rome said: "The Italians have assured us that they want to reach an agreement to avoid an embargo, and obviously we would pre-

Kurd expulsion calls

World news in brief

LEADING government and opposition politicians in Germany called yesterday for the expulsion of Kurdish activists after a reekend of battles between police and Kurds that left hundreds

injured and hundreds more in jail.

The riots, which happened during a banned demonstration in the north-west town of Dortmund to coincide with the Kurdish new year, shocked the public.

new year, shocked the public.

President Roman Herzog said last night that foreigners engaging in "violence and terror" had forfeited the right to stay in Germany. The foreign minister, Klaus Kinkel, called the violence a "declaration of war" against the German legal system and Manfred Kenther, the interior minister, blamed the PKK — Kurdestan Worker's Party — which is banned in Germany.

The opposition Social Democrats called on the 500,000-strong

Kurdish community in Germany to isolate the PKK.

An anonymous female caller to local radio stations near the An anonymous temate camer to local ratio stations have been north-west town of Eschweiler yesterday threatened that children would be killed unless the 600 Kurds detained were released.

About 4,000 Kurds took part in the demonstration. The 400 injured included 40 police. — Ian Traynor, Bonn.

campaign rallies, calling for a massive vote in an attempt to prove he still enjoyed support after 16 years in power. His last opponent, Bishop Abel Muzorewa, pulled out on the eve of the polls and his other challenger, the veterun politician Ndabaningi Sithole, withdrew last Tuesday. — Reaser, Harare.

Amnesty slams UN body

Amnesty urged the Human Rights Commission to put five countries — China, Turkey, Nigeria, Indonesia and Colombia

be weak and self-contradictory if it continues to ignore the fact that human rights are brazenly suppressed in these countries."

the populations themselves which are targeted, bombarded, tor-tured. Civilians, including women and children, are massacred

HOURS after his election, Sierra Leone's new president, Ahmed Tejan Kabbah, appealed yesterday to refugees from its civil war to return home and urged citizens to co-operate in bringing peace and economic stability.

see no reason why the ingenuity, talent and drive of our citizens should not be utilized to create a new society," Mr Kabbah said.

The leader of Sierra Leone's oldest political party was declared the winner of a presidential runoff held on Friday. Mr Kabbah.

Mr Kabbah said his government would continue attempts launched by the outgoing military regime to bring the rebels to peace talks. On Sunday the military government claimed that the rebel army had agreed to an immediate ceasefire and peace talks -although there was no confirmation from the rebels. -- AP.



Hundred dead in disco fire

Manila disco jammed with youngsters celebrating the end of the Philippine academic year, rescue workers said.

the blazing ceiling collapsed on them.

when lights went out and flames roared through the nightspot. "I fell down near the exit door and people were stepping on me." said one. "I thought I was going to die." — Reuter, Manila.

A POWERFUL bomb left on a bus in the Russian capital was defused 15 minutes before it would have gone off, security sources said yesterday. The bomb, almost nine pounds of explosive with a timer attached, was found by the bus driver on Sunday afternoon when he heard something ticking inside an abandoned parcel.

The bus's route took it along Kutuzovsky Prospekt, the elite "government chaussee" along which Boris Yeltsin's motorcade travels between his home and the Kremin. A possible link to the Chechen separatist movement was being investigated. - Jan

Row as author backs Serbs

lan Traynor in Bonn

NE of the foremost living writers in German has sparked a bitter row over guilt and in-nocence in the Balkan wars with a new book defending the Serbs, who he says have been maligned by the distortions of the international media and Western governments. German intellectuals are

in uproar over the book by Peter Handke, aged 53, a Austrian citizen of mixed German-Slovene blood. He is now on a controversial reading tour of Germany, Austria and Slovenia, promoting the book, in which he attacks the Western media, intellectuals and governments for their atment of the Serbs. Mr Handke is the most

prominent figure in the German cultural world to come out so strongly in defence of the Serbs, prompting accusations that he is oblivious to genocide, war crimes and the destruction of Bosnia. German policy has been keenly pro-Cro- A drop in the ocean . . . A Bosnian woman tries to put out a fire in a flat in the Sarajevo suburb of Grabavica yesterday

The book, A Writer's Journey to the Rivers Dan-ube, Sava, Morava and Drina, or Justice for Ser-bia, takes the form of a travelogue combined with an emotional and violent denunciation of what he says is widespread anti-

Serb bias. Bosnian victims of the Serb detention camps have been staging protests out-Handke's reading tour, calling on him to speak not only to the Serbs, but to them too.

Despite the furore he has sparked — German, French, and even Serb writers accuse him of naivety, wilful malice and ignorance -- Mr Handke is utterly unapologetic.
In an interview published

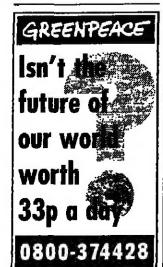
yesterday in the Vienna news magazine Profil, he stepped up his attacks on German policy, and ham-mered the Austrian government for good measure.
"The politicians who con-

sciously or unconsciously collaborated in destroying Yugoslavia have to see that they just can't exclude Serbia. The only country that gains from the current solution is Germany.

"Germany has every in-terest in having as many servile little statelets dependent on it, the economic giant, as possible. That gets learer and clearer."

Austrian policy, particu-larly when the wars erupted in 1991, was "unforgivable, eternally unforgivable", he said.

"I've never experienced anything so awful in my



band, notably drugs.
Driftnets which, as their

other species. In 1989 the United Nations General Assembly passed a resolution calling on mem-bers to suspend the use of driftnets longer than 1.5 miles from the end 1992. Numerous countries, including Japan, Korea and Taiwan, have since

Brussels commissioner accuses UK of inaction

HE European fisheries said that between 1986 and pean Union providing the commissioner, Emma 1994 Britain had failed prooning, accused Britain vide "matching funds" Mrs Bonino said: "The EU THE European fisheries commissioner, Emma Bonino, accused Britain yesterday of failing to act to prevent foreign ships from plundering its fish quota by "quota hopping", writes Rebecca Smithers.

Mrs. Roming in London Said that between 1986 and 1994 Britain had failed prowing the which would have unlocked EU money set aside to cover the cost of fishermen taking their boats out of service.

for a meeting with the fisheries minister Tony Baldry cent of the cost, the Euro-

ing was the Mediterranean.
"with vessels predominantly being of Italian flag or by a consortium of environment of the control of the consortium of environment of the control of the contr by a consortium of environ-mental and animal defence groups, including the RSPCA

and the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS). Patricia Forkan, HSUS's ex-ecutive vice-president, said

yesterday: "Italy has a drift-net fleet of more than 500 ves-sels, most of which use drift-

The action which led to last | nets that are 5 to 6 miles in nonth's ruling was brought | length. The bulk of the catch. some 82 per cent, is discarded Thousands of whales, dol-phins, sharks and other marine life have died."

gage in large-scale driftnet fishing ... in defiance of the

Judge Thomas Aquiling ruled in the US court of international trade in New York that "Italians continue to en-

Poll blow to Mugabe

FEWER than half of Zimbabwe's 4.9 million voters cast ballots in the weekend presidential polls, seen as a mere formality after a boycott by those challenging the incumbent, Robert Mugabe. Interim figures released by election officials yesterday showed that 1,537,086 people — about 31.4 per cent of the registered electorate — voted in the elections, which Mr Mugabe won by default after his two opponents pulled out of the race.

"It will be a major blow to Mugabe, especially considering how hard he has been campaigning," said John Makumbe, a political analyst at the University of Zimbabwe in Harare.

In the month before the elections Mr Mugabe, aced 72, held 40

In the month before the elections Mr Mugabe, aged 72, held 40

seli blocks

ther and b

THE United Nations' top human-rights watchdog opened its annual session yesterday to praise from the UN secretary general, Boutros Boutros-Ghali, and criticism from Amnesty

on its agenda for the first time.

"The commission is losing its credibility and will show itself to

In a placatory opening speech, Mr Boutros-Ghali said human rights would be best promoted by a combination of diplomacy, democracy and development.

He said the commission's work was more necessary than ever.

given the upsurge in atrocities committed during civil wars. "It is pitilessly." - AP, Genevo.

Message of reconciliation

"With Sierra Leone's wealth in human and material resources.

aged 64, won 59.4 per cent of the votes, defenting John Karefa-



Recruits from the banned Ukrainian national assembly train at their base near Khust, 350 miles west of Kiev. Since Russia's parliament voted to keep the Soviet Union, Ukrainian nationalists have stepped up their activities

to stop school violence create cash drought have been some high-profile cases. In 1933 nursery school children were taken hostage in the Paris suburb Neuilly.

Paul Webster in Paris

Serb police pulled out of their

last Saraievo stronghold yes-

terday, paving the way for the

city's final reunification after

About 40 policemen in blue fatigues stood to attention as

the Serb flag was removed

from their improvised head-quarters in Grbavica, the fifth

and final Sarajevo suburb to

be transferred to the Bosnian

government under the Dayton

Milenko Karisik, a local poli-

tician, vowed that the Serbs would return to reclaim their

what of the Bosnian capital.
"We will be the last to leave
but the first to come back. It

may be in this generation or the next, but we will return."

four years of war and siege.

ORE than 2,000 extra national servicemen are to be drafted into French schools in one of several urgent measures to protect pupils and teachers from increasing violence and outside threats. Details will be announced

tomorrow by the education minister, François Bayrou. The measures will form part of a new programme based on three years of experiments in-volving 2,500 national servicemen. The men, who do not carry arms or wear uniforms. are already serving their 10 months' conscription period as school auxiliary staff.

The prime minister, Alain Juppé, announced on television the dispatch of 2,200 extra recruits before the autumn term — without linking it to the Dunblane massacre, which has been front page news in France. But edu-cation officials said the Scottish murders had added to French concern that schools were becoming more unsafe. Apart from regular reports

of violence against teachers

and pupils by outsiders, there | monitors,

outside a Jewish school in The extra national service

men will also help to control internal violence, including attacks on staff by parents and pupils, and student vandalism, such as the bomb made by three youths which blew up a washroom in a school in northern France last week

Mr Juppé said one of the most urgent measures to be discussed at tomorrow's cabinet meeting was barsher pun-ishment for intruders, including fines up to £1,200 or prison terms for trespass. Most schools already have video cameras and restricted

An education official said the transfer of national servicemen followed increasing demands from staff, particularly in poor suburbs, for more help. The conscripts' main tasks

are to run clubs, provide es-

corts for outings, help admin-

istrative staff and act as

Stephen Bates in Brussels ANK robbers are close to succeeding, where two world wars and the European Union's

and monetary union have so far failed, in creating a cash crisis in Belgium. The situation — which has left some banks and businesses almost out of cash - is due to a strike by security guards protesting about the risks they face following a spate of armed

robberies in which two of their number have died. The government called in 2.000 heavily armed police on Sunday to supervise the collection in armoured vans of takings from large stores and companies. The interior minister, Jo-

han Vande Lanotte, who or-

ganised the operation, in-

sisted that he was not

lutely necessary because

very unsafe," he said. "My Acoz in the province concern is security, not the Hainaut. economy."
But the operation may have come just in time, be-

cause there is a serious possibility of the banks running out of ready cash: virtually none has been de-livered for a fortnight. Two-thirds of cashpoint

machines are now empty, leaving hundreds of Brus-sels' residents and tourists without money over the weekend. Businesses are being advised to pay clients with what notes they have in their tills rather than by bank transfer. They have been asked to take their cash to the banks.

supply could dry up by the end of the week unless a settlement is reached with the 1,200 striking guards. The guards struck after

It is estimated the money the second fatality in three months. Marc Brussel-

Belgium's usually placed streets are gaining the atmo-sphere of the Wild West, as robbers routinely shoot tt out with the police and secu-rity staff in broad daylight. The 50 attacks last year were exceeded this year in

Bosnian government for per-

mission to keep 4,500 of its men inside Sarajevo's Tito

A Bosnian Croat command-

er indicted for war crimes by

the UN tribunal is being shell

tered by the Croatian govern-

ment, an opposition news-

Ivica Rajic was indicted seven months ago for the murder of 16 Muslims in the

Bosnian village of Stupni Do

in 1993. Under the Dayton ac-

cord the Croatian govern-

ment must hand him over, but the Feral Tribune said he

was staying under an assumed name at a holiday com-

plex run by the Croatian de-fence ministry in Split.

paper claimed.

Barracks and other bases.

January alone, when there were 72 raids. The strikers are demanding an end to night collections, and three rather than wo guards in each van. Some security companies have said they will continue to collect money at night, and have offered volunteers the equivalent of 40p an

hour extra in danger money. Stephane Bocque, a spokesman for the Belgian arm of Group 4 Security, said: "Moving transports to daytime will just move everything into the light. The robberies already cause more victims in the trying to break the strike.

"The action was absolutely necessary because everything was getting to break the strike.

"The action was absolutely necessary because bags he had been about to everything was getting deliver to a night safe at more potential victim." day. An extra man would not offer any additional security -- he'd just be one

ABOUT 100 people were killed in a blaze early yesterday in a

Many appeared to have been trampled to death in a stampede for the narrow passage leading to the exit at the Ozone Disco Pub in the Quezon City district of the capital. Others were killed when

Teenage survivors described a desperate rush for the door

Moscow bus bomb made safe

Serbs leave final stronghold blazing A nearby roof which had plete reunification of a city night in a "safe house" set up been burning fiercely expartitioned since April 1992. by the UN refugee agency. ploded as one of many Only an estimated tenth of The safe house, two flats on had shown no signs of with-Julian Borger in Sarajevo drawing from its main bases in the city, which fall within the first floor of an apartment O THE sound of crackthe city's original Serb populareapons caches caught fire. the demilitarised zone. ling fires and exploding ammunition, Bosnian The police were unper-turbed. The Serb authorities tion will stay on under the block, is protected by un-Muslim-Croat Federation, armed UN police. Nato, ever Major Haselock said I-For had rejected a request by the

> the widespread arson that has marked their departure from the suburbs. Italian and French Nato pears to be aimed at the 1,500 Serbs, Muslims and Croats patrols were substantially in-creased in the last few days of Serb control, but were unable who have opted to remain in to suppress arson and looting in a built-up area.

Twelve suspected arsonists detained by Italian Nato troops and handed over to the Grbavica police were immediately released, adding weight to allegations that the burning of the suburbs was sanctioned by the Serb leadership.

have done nothing to hinder

however. Most were persuaded to leave by their own leaders, who are determined to maintain ethnic segregation.
The campaign of arson ap-

Grbavica. Gangs of Serb ar-sonists have started fires di-rectly above and below flats which are still occupied.

With very little firefighting equipment at their disposal, Nato troops can only try to save civilians trapped in

burning high-rise blocks. Sixteen local residents who

Three months after the deployment of the Nato-led implementation force (I-For), Nato officials reported general compliance with military aspects of the Dayton agreement but said one significant issue remained unresolved in the run-up to the 90-day mile-

reluctant to be drawn deeper

into ordinary policing, refused to post a permanent

guard.

stone at midnight tonight. By then, the armies are meant to have pulled back two kilometres from the line separating the federation and Federal police were due to had hoped to stay in their the Serb Republic. Major move into Grbavica at six o'clock this morning. Their federation police fled fires and intimidation to spend the Muslim-led Bosnian army

Belgium's busy robbers

Taiwanese flee 'front-line' islet

Andrew Higgins in Tung Chu island Matsu archipelago

defencepla

建轴 机设化化氢氧 抗燃

TAKES Chen Chi ming ittle more than a minute to sprint from his house along a puddled path to a Taoist temple and down into what must be Taiwan's loneli-est bomb shelter.

Burrowed into a rain-lashed bluff barely a dozen miles from the scene of China's latest war games, and even closer to the Chinese mainland, the reinforced bun-ker was built decades ago to protect scores of people from the shells of the People's Lib-

eration Army (PLA).
Should war break out today. Mr Chen may have to tremble alone. Nearly every-one else on his street has fled to Taiwan proper, seeking more secure protection from

China's military.
"It's impossible to know what China might decide to do next." said Mr Chen. who has stocked a warren of underground rooms with provisions. He has a mobile phone to keep in touch with his family and friends.

Many Taiwanese, separated from China by more than massed along the coast a few 100 miles of sea, can shrug off Beijing's bellicose rhetorie seemingly endless displays of firepower. Nonchalance does not come easy, however, on Tung Chu island, the closest Taiwanese terri-tory to war games due to start

We are all furious that the Chinese communists are showing off their military on our deorstep." said Tsao Chanc-shun, the top official on the Mass archipelago. Of course people are worried."

Mr Tago assimated."

July Tago assimated."

July Tago assimated."

July Tago assimated."

July Tago assimated." Mr Tsao estimated that, of a bunkers cut into the rock.

On the main street is a ramshow he had no gun.

OWER-LEVEL Chinese officials threatened to Los Angeles if the United States defends Taiwan against any Chinese attack, the state department said.
"Some Chinese lower-

level officials told some visthat we wouldn't dare de-fend Taiwan because they'd rain nuclear bombs on Los Angeles," said Winston Lord, the assistant secre-tary of state for East Asia and the Pacific.

He dismissed the reported threat as "a little disinformation and some psychological warfare", and said a senior Chinese official had denied it. — Reuter.

fewer than 200 remained. Gale-force winds and driv-

ing rain seem to have kept the Chinese navy in port yester-day. A PLA ground force of more than 150,000 troops, miles away, was reported to have begun its part in mas-sive combined manoeuvres that will straddle Taiwan's first democratic presidential

The PLA's latest sabre-rat-tling is an attempt to put voters off President Lee Tengbut, the election front-runner. Virtually the only people left on Tung Chu are hun-dreds of Taiwanese soldiers pointing anti-aircraft guns

Bombast threat same parfours, silent karaoke bars and grocery shops. Merchants who stayed to watch their shops curse China for ruining business. Soldiers, usually their best customer are mostly confined to their bunkers and pillboxes.

On a fine day, the mainland is clearly visible from Tung Chu, a barren speck dotted with statues of Chiang Kaishek and huge slogans demanding vigilance and, one day, vengeance against the PLA for driving Generalis-simo Chiang from the mainland in 1949.
Yesterday, low clouds and

fog smothered the sliver of sea separating the two combatants in China's unfinished civil war. At the primary school,

headmaster Wang Chien-hua surveyed a deserted, rainsoaked playground. All but five of his 25 pupils have fled with their parents. With Tung (Eastern) Chu and barely anyone left to teach, nearby Hsi (Western) Chu, Mr Wang decreed that the spring break would start yes-terday, instead of next month.

As headmaster, he is also chief returning officer for the election. The island's only polling booth is the school gymnasium, where Mr Wang expects fewer than 50 voters. On Tung Chu, at least, China has succeeded in disrupting first attempt to select a leader by direct democratic election.

The official bravado of Tai-wan's military is intact. "I've been a soldier for 20 years; I've never been afraid," said Major Wang Lung-Hsiang, commanding officer of an anti-aircraft post manned by shivering young conscripts.
"If we got scared every time

out to sea, digging trenches and, for the first time in years, roaring tanks into would be constantly terrifled." He tugged at his belt to



Riot for body of rebel leader

Lewa Pardomuan in Jakarta

youths rioted in the Indonesian province of Irian Jaya yesterday after they were refused access to a town where the body of a jailed independence leader was being taken for burial.

A military spokesman, Captain Edi Sulisdiyadi, said riots broke out in the town of

riots broke out in the town of Abepura when the body of Thomas Wapai Wainggai, who died last Tuesday while serving a prison sentence in Jakarta, arrived for burial in the provincial capital Jayanura 19 miles care. If pura, 12 miles away. It seems that the protesters, mainly students, wanted to take Wa-inggai's body to the universi-ty where he taught.

Diplomats said Wainggai was believed to have had close links with the separatist Free Papua Movement (OPM), which is fighting for an inde pendent Irlan Jaya and is holding 11 hostages, includ-ing four Britons. They feared the protests were likely to complicate efforts to free the hostages, held for 10 weeks.

Capt Sulisdiyadi said 300 400 protesters burnt cars and a market and damaged build-ings. Injuries were reported but no deaths. Residents said Jayapura, 2,200 miles east of Jakarta, was sealed off, of fices were shut and residents stayed indoors. Calm was

restored by evening. Wainggai was sentenced to 20 years in jail for proclaim-ing an independent Melane-sian state in Irian Jaya during a flag-raising ceremony in 1987. He died of heart problems on the way to hospital.

This is the second week of violence in the province. Last week tribespeople rioted in the towns of Timika and Tembagapura, where Freeport Indonesia operates one of the world's largest copper and gold mines.

Yesterday the Indonesian military turned down the rebels' demand for recogni-tion of their cause in return for the hostages' release.

"All this is bound to strengthen the hand of those who say let us hang on to the insurance policy — the hos-tages'," a foreign diplomat

Israeli blockade keeps mother and baby apart

Derek Brown in Abu Dis

BRITISH aid worker in raci's border closures

Jo Simister's Palestinian hu-band. Ahmed Yunis, is a physiotherapist who com-pleted his doctorate in Northern Ireland last year, and now teaches in Bethlehem University. On February 14 he took their Belfast born son, Umaya, to the Gaza Strip to visit his family. As a stateles Palestinian, he also needed to

renew his papers. Father and son have been trapped in the blockaded terrmory ever since, and Ms Simister has been refused permission to join them. "He was eight months' old

then. Now he is nine months," she said yesterday at the family home in Abu Dis outside Jerusalem. I am very calm today bemuse I am very angry. When my energies are channelled

into being angry, they are not channelled into crying." Als Simister is not naturally the crying kind. She came as an active Quaker to the Israeli-occupied West-Bank in 1988, when the inti-rada, the Palestinian uprising, started. More recently only to Palestinians but also

Marrying Dr Yunis gave Jo Simister no right to live in Isdom, he is not entitled to a British passport. Umaya has both British and Irish

The family has now fallen into the quagmire produced by Israel's twin obsessions: keeping the Palestinians at arm's length while continu-ing to control them. The present closure of Isra-

el's borders, the latest in a long succession, was imposed in February after the first of the series of four horrific suicide bombings by Islamist fa-natics which killed 62 people. The clampdown has been accompanied by curfews and

a series of "internal" restrictions, curtailing Palestinian movement in the West Bank, and almost completely cutting off the Gaza Strip. The clampdown has led to widespread unemployment,

food shortages, and the death of at least four patients when checkpoints. Palestinians have bitterly denounced Israel's tactics as naked collective

punishment.
The restrictions apply not

she has worked with Save the to foreign passport holders children.

Palestine has been sepa-rated from her baby son And although her husband southern end of the Gaza for almost three weeks by is trained in the United King Strip. He therefore needs and Palestine.

In the turmoil caused by

Rashid Mohammed Ibrahim Sager, a Muslim militant who allegedly planned to carry out a suicide bombing during President Clinton's Israeli visit, was recruited by promises of virgins in paradise and divine forgiveness for his family, he said

yesterday. The militant, aged 22, arrested last week by Palestin-ian police, disclosed this dur-

Dr Yunis has an additional

problem. His family lives in a extra papers to be able to work in Bethlehem ostensibly under the control of the Palestinian Authority, and to live in Abu Dis, where control is, in theory, shared by Israel

the closure. Dr Yunis has been unable to renew his papers. Even if he could, he would not be allowed to leave Gaza. And even though his wife has a British passport. she is not allowed to enter

"I know my case is not the most deserving, and that a lot of people are suffering more." she said."

ing an interview in his Gaza City jail cell by Israel radio.

John Aglionby in Jakarta on how the Internet is to record 19th-century perils on voyage retracing a naturalist's steps

on a perilous voyage through Indonesia's remote spice islands, retracing the steps of the pioneering 19th century naturalist Alfred Russel Wallace.

Mr Severin, aged 55, has already crossed the Atlantic in a leatherskin boat named the St Brendan, to prove that fifth century Irish monks could have dis covered America, and has also retraced the routes of Sinbad the Sailor, Jason's Argonauts and Marco Polo.

He embarked on his latest voyage in an undecked 48ft wooden two-masted sailing essel similar to the one Wallace used on his many trips around eastern Indo-

nesia in the 1850s. It was built by local boat-builders in the Kai islands. 1,240 miles east of Jakarta. They worked without drawings and used their arms for measuring. Their

At first glance, little would

if it were not for the small

Portuguese fort which now

serves as a museum to a trade

At the price of 1.5 million souls shipped away in bond-

age, perhaps no place in Af-

rica has exported so much to

From Creole New Orleans

to the swamplands of Florida.

from Baptist church shouts to

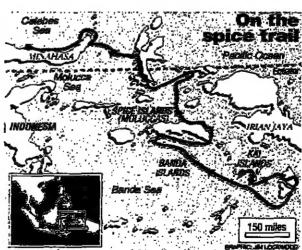
blues lyrics, talk of hoodoo and mojo - references to

like Santeria and Candomble

the culture of the Americas.

HE Auglo-Irish explorer and author Timest their forefathers used to Named the Alfred Walseverin has embarked build Wallace's vessel. But Mr Severin's boat is the Moluccan islands in bonour of the adventurer who, with Charles Darwin, equipped with satellite and computer technology and will stay in touch with the first announced the theory

Explorer adds spice to historic adventure



without too many risks, but progress is mostly with a little outboard engine," Mr Severin wrote in an electronic mail message sent to

news agencies via satellite.
The expedition intends to research changes in the flora and fauna of the Mo-luccas in the past 150 years, since Wallace made his discoveries. Mr Severin said: "In his

even years of travelling in the Moluccas, Wallace crashed frequently on coral reefs, was nearly sunk by storms, had to avoid pirates, and accidentally marooned two of his crew on an uninhabited island the scientists' findings and when a strong current

"Hopefully, the engine will prevent us from having to re-enact too many of these events, but there is these events, but there is "The purpose is to create the first or the purpose is to create the purpose struck by either a hurri-cane or a flat calm."

of natural selection, lafter islands in the world -"At the moment the the home of nutmeg, cloves winds are light enough to and mace.
begin our sailing lessons The British and Dutch

fought for decades to con-trol these islands. The Dutch gave up Manhattan for one of the tiny Bands Islands to secure a monop oly of the spice trade.

Mr Severin is not after such conquests. 'I'll be quite happy just to reach the end in one piece, having provided useful research material to students around the world," he said. He plans to send photo-graphic and video images to construct an Internet ho mepage mapping out his travels for schools on the World Wide Web. Pupils will be able to read about send questions to the boat. Scientists will post infor-

the first interactive scienane or a flat calm."

The 1,200-mile route will of its kind," Mr Severin take the expedition to what | said yesterday on sea trials were once the most sought- from the Kai islands.

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News in brief

Parisians burn

homeless men sleeping in a central Paris doorway with alcohol and set one alight, burning him to death, French radio reported.

will help them identify the killers. — AP.

Spymaster's end

Ray Cline, head of the CIA in-telligence directorate in the early 1960s, who later wrote that it "was not illogical" for the agency to emply the Mafia to assassinate Fidel Castro, has died at the age of 77. He was suffering from Alz-

Greek poet dies The Greek poet and Nobel lau-

reate Odvsseus Elytis died at his Athens home yesterday, aged 84, apparently from a heart attack. - AP. Obituary, page 10

homeless man

Four youths doused two

The other escaped to alert the police, who hope a bottle of fuel alcohol left at the scene

Fruit surprise

The Burmese opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi said yesterday that she and her followers had escaped a pelting at a memorial ceremony for the former prime minister U Nu. because the young men hired by the authorities to throw tomatoes at them

heimer's disease. --- AP.

Ouidah's ancient religion. Vodoun — has sprinkled American life. Ouidah's influence extends further, to Trinidad, Brazil duty as correcting distorted and Cuba, where religions images of Vodoun.

Ouidah.

the Slave Coast.

Benin. In Haiti, Vodoun is a progenitor of the religion that Haitians call Vaudou.

As contact. HERE are no factory whistles to compete with the church bells or the muezzin's call to prayer in the sun-battered town of As contacts between West

Benin is celebrating how slavery took its

religion across the world - and enriched

Western culture, writes **Howard French**

Africa and the New World multiply today, the people of Benin are realising more than give away its place in history, ever that their loss fertilised a rich new culture. In Ouidah, whose prepopulation is about 20,000, no in humans that last century made the town the capital of one seems prouder of this

> the "Supreme Chief of the Grand Council of the Vodoun Religion of Benin". Mr Houna, aged 74, told a visitor that devotees of a religion most widely known in America as voodoo think of

> than Daagbo Hounon Houna,

him as its pope. He beamed as he showed off a certificate from New Orleans, which he visited last year. He has also been invited to Brazil and Cuba. He clearly sees part of his

"When the first Europeans

named January 10 a holiday in honour of Vodoun

Benin's president

Voodoo devotees mark tragic diaspora

whites to introduce their be liefs and destroy our culture."

murals and symbols of spirits such as Gu, Legba, Damballa

and Hevioso — all common figures in Haitian religion. What he seeks to make

clear is that Vodoun has nothing to do with the common Western perception of sticking pins in dolls.
"There are women who cannot conceive children. men who cannot find work

and elders who cannot find

peace," Mr Houna said, "Vo-

in belated recognition of York Times.

loun restores hope.

January 10 a national holiday in honour of *Vodoun*.

Just as *Vodoun* priests in Ouldah have kept their faith

alive, members of the De Souza family have worked to preserve the memory of their Brazilian ancestor, Don Francisco Felix de Souza, who came to the town in 1754 to run the Portuguese slaving fort. He was named viceroy in 1818 by a local king.

Last autumn, after nearly 30 years with no one on the family "throne", the De Souzas named their eighth viceroy: Honore Feliciano Juliano de Souza, from Lomé, Togo. The new viceroy's priority is rebuilding the original home of his ancestor, which afforded

a clear view of what is known oday as the Slave Route. Today the route is lined with painted statues representing Benin's once powerful royalty. Close to the windswept coast

stands a monument to the slaves, erected in 1992. "We have been taught that this represents what Africa has given to the world." said a boy

walked on our soil they began the faith's importance. Becalling us fetishists," he said nin's president, Nicephore through an interpreter. "That Soglo, earlier this year named nick president pick president

VOTERS in Benin went to the polls yesterday to choose between President Nicephore Soglo and his predecessor. Mathieu Kerekou, a former Marxist who

ruled for 17 years. In 1990 Mr Kerekou was forced to hand power to a caretaker government after riots and strikes. Mr Soglo, a former World Bank administrator aged 62, became Benin's first democratically

elected president in 1991. The two men were neckand-neck in the first round of voting on March 3. The third-place candidate took 18 per cent of the vote and gave his support to Mr Kerekou. Results from yester-

day's runoff are not ex-

pected for several days. Mr Soglo is credited with building a democracy which sparked one of the fastest-growing economies in the region, but his dismantling of Mr Kerekon's socialist system caused unemployment, inflation, and other hardships. — AP.

The Guardian

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A saturated arms race

There are better ways of spending \$5 billion

THE ARMS TRADE bazaar is thriving small islands in the Gulf. But what is in the Middle East, with the United Arab Emirates the latest buyer in the that Tehran should be bombed to the field for sophisticated goodies. The three biggest international arms mer-chants — the US, Britain and France have just submitted final proposals for a deal involving up to 80 state-of-the-art planes at a cost of \$5 billion. Britain, as the Guardian reported yesterday, may be close to clinching a separate contract for a new "super-intelligent" type of cruise missile. There is much expert salivation at what is being described as possibly the last contract of its size and kind this century. The British public will be invited to applaud the efforts of those, in Lady Thatcher's famous phrase, who are batting for Britain. But - just weeks after the Scott report should we not pause and ask what purpose is served by this single-minded pursuit of the sale of lethal technology?

France and the US have already concluded defence related deals with the UAE for more than \$4 billion in the past two years. If the transactions now being discussed go through, the total bill will work out at roughly \$5,000 per head of work out at roughly \$5,000 per head of after the Gulf War for an international after the Gulf war for an international the country's population. If the figure is effort to reduce the flow of arms to the calculated in terms of UAE nationals (who only constitute a quarter of total inhabitants) then it will cost them point. The argument that "British jobs \$20,000 each. Another way of doing the sums would show a cost of \$120,000 per square kilometre of semi-arid desert. The UAE can raise the cash, but these figures illustrate the absurdity of arm-

ing small territories to the hilt. These deals are being proposed not because they make strategic sense but because these weapons are the status symbols of mini-statehood virility and because the Gulf states have the petro-dollars to pay for them. No one is rushing to provide other small states around the world with 21st century military technology. It is true that the internal reform — and investing else-UAE has a dispute with Iran over three where for Middle East peace.

International Court at The Hague or driven off the islands by a hail of

The UAE's ability to utilise effectively, in purely military terms, the equipment which it may purchase is in any case very doubtful. Similar doubts surround the whole post-1990 enterprise of Gulf-wide military cooperation through the Gulf Cooperation Council. The UAE's insistence on negotiating a defence treaty with those countries which will supply the arms is significant. Sell us the weapons, runs the subtext, but only if you will come and help us if we ever need to use them. This stipulation is causing problems for Britain, not on grounds of principle, but because it could involve subjecting British troops to UAE law. Whether or not this would include whipping for adulterers is not clear, but it might certainly prove politically embarrass-

are at stake" concedes that the policy may be indefensible on other grounds. In fact the economic claim is much less attractive for the nation when the actual terms including soft loans and credit guarantees are taken into account. These financial resources are finite and would be better devoted to promoting British civil exports. At a time of lower oil prices, the Gulf states' funds are not inexhaustible either, yet arms spending is so enormous that it distorts their budgets. The dollars would be better spent on promoting



CONSERVATIVE Eurosceptics believe | plan to continue an eight year-old ban they can bring their party together and | on the use of meat growth hormones, increase its popularity by standing which effectively bars American, Canaalone on every available European dian and Australian beef from Euroissue. An increasing proportion of their | pean markets. Once again our minister more pragmatic colleagues, epitomised | stood up for the British way in opposiby John Major, agree with them for the tion to Brussels and to his agriculture sake of party unity. Labour, anxious not to fight a jingo election in which it is cast as uncritically pro-European, follows in the slipstream of Conservative policy, though at a decent distance. In British politics it has now become axiomatic that it is electorally preferable to be isolated on Europe than to agree with the other member states.

This populist approach is inherently opportunist. Last year the Eurosceptics seized on the upsurge of anxiety about live animal exports. They eagerly incorporated it into their manifesto of anti-Brussels demands. Building on the hostility which many in this country rightly feel towards the EU's common agricultural policy, the Eurosceptics tried to harness hostility to European harmonisation with the intense anxieties about the meat industry which crystallised in the anti-live exports campaign. It was their moment of highest influence. Their achievement was even embodied in a special section of the British government's European policy white paper published last week.

But what happens when the same populisms collide? Yesterday the British government proudly isolated itself on a European agricultural policy issue speak for them; not for the Tory Party's once again. This time the item was a Little England fanatics.

minister colleagues. The only trouble was that this time - unlike over live exports -- Britain is on the wrong side of the argument as far as public opinion is concerned.

Britain's support for the lifting of the ban is based on the belief, reinforced by a Commission-sponsored conference last year, that there is no scientific evidence of human health risk arising from the use of both natural and synthetic hormones. The Man in Whitehall suspects that the scientific arguments accepted by the other member states are a cover for a protectionist policy to benefit the big and influential European beef producers. The other governments say that European consumers, still suspicious after the panic over mad cow disease, will not buy hormonetreated beef anyway. British consumers undoubtedly agree, to judge by the decline in beef sales here. It says a lot about the Conservatives that they are so out of touch. They prefer to heed the theoretical obsessions of the anti-Europeans than the reality of changing consumption patterns. Millions of voters are disgusted with meat industry production methods. Ministers should

Meet the new chips on the block

And imagine the joy of watching television without the dross

Tereu ucanie and annual to the few entrames Of I make the few

LAST month President Clinton made it | such digital delight, an N would cause mandatory for all future US television | the set to throw up when News Bunnies sets to have a "V chip" to block violent came on, an I would censor inane or explicit films (as classified by a programmes, D would detect the sound government panel). Parents will have to of a dart hitting the board, G would key in a password to permit such films | send the Good Sex Guide packing (or at to be seen. John Major is coming under | least, dressing) while a CO would kill pressure to do something similar. How- all Carry On repeats. A television set ever, by the time it is ready, the V chip | like this with a mind of its own would will have been overtaken by a similar | cut out when Lloyd Grossman reached chip designed to let parents and others a new high pitch or when the Girlie do their own monitoring rather than | Show reached a new low: would switch falling in with what the bureaucrats on when two politicians agreed with decide is safe for us to view.

of chips is available to make viewing the initials "OJ", sponsored weather. even more pleasurable than it now is. An A chip would automatically switch the word Chipmunks, serials we channels as soon as any advertisements came on and return when they have finished, a B chip would frazzle the set would soon win a Bafta award for screen whenever Baywatch came on, a | liberating us to do all the things people C chip would switch off with the men- used to do before television came along. tion of Charles and Diana and so on. In | If only we could remember them.

each other but go to sleep faced with It may not be long before an alphabet | wall-to-wall afternoon pap, anyone with sports superfluity, anything containing weren't in at the start for, and Cell Block H (part 1,234). Such a television



Letters to the Editor

Hear no evil, see no evil A pension scheme that will always pay off for Labour

on private grief since the Dunblane massacre, it is the moralisers pontificating on "evil as a dynamic in human affairs" (Reason eclipsed by evil, March 16).

One of my own sons survived mild molestation by a man in the park 20 years ago and now has no recollection of the incident. I am con-vinced that this is because, although we talked to him about it, assured him that the molester was wrong to do it, and told him firmly not to chat to strange men in future, no one panicked or over-reacted. Children need protection and reassurance, not publicity and paranoia.

murderous final acts and that this may lead to other misdiagnoses and more witch-hunting of "perverts". We need to be able to distinguish between different kinds of threat, rather than to be fed panic about generalised Name and address supplied.

thinkers questioned by thinkers questioned by Henry Porter about evil, idealism and Dunblane came Bishop's Stortford, from a pretty narrow range of he liberal spectrum. What do the Neo-Darwinists think about it all? Can mass murder

How very uncivil

THE Council of Civil Ser-vice Unions (CCSU) med

urgently with officials win the Cabinet Office in response

to the changes outlined in your article ('Loyalty' bar limits Irish in Civil Service,

We were presented with a

fait accompli. There has been

no consultation with the

unious on these changes

which have barred Irish and Commonwealth citizens from

reserved posts" in the UK

Civil Service as from June 1996. At present, "reserved posts" make up 25 per cent of

the half-million-strong Civil

This Nationality Rule

change has been presented by officials as a technical amend-ment which brings the UK

into line with European Law.

ernment, which complains

bitterly about European deci-

CCSU believes this nationality har is potentially dis-

criminatory. It legislates

against groups of workers who have historically enjoyed the right to apply for any job in the Civil Service on the

same basis as UK citizens. It will send a negative signal to

Irish and Commonwealth citi-

zens already in post, as well

as those who will be unable to

apply for the full range of

Civil Service jobs in the

The CCSU has registered its

protest at these changes and will be pressing the Civil Ser-

vice to reduce the number of

In addition, CCSU will con-

tinue to work with its constit-

uent unions to oppose dis-

crimination, on whatever

grounds, within the civil and

public services.

Council of Civil

Service Unions.

London SW1V 1SU.

Assistant Secretary,

231 Vauxhall Bridge Road,

Letters to the Editor may be

include a full postal address,

faxed on 0171 837 4530, Please

even on e-mailed letters, and a

telephone number. We may edit

letters: shorter ones are more

likely to appear. We regret we

cannot acknowledge those not

in

'reserved posts''

sions most of the time.

An irony indeed for this Cov-

March 18).

F THERE is one thing and genocide be construed as ing has been learnt from the worse than the intrusion acts of altruism that maximitrusiveness, publication of on private grief since the mise the chances of survival half-truths and downright of one's own genes by elimi-nating potential competitors? Are these genes "selfish", or just blindly idiotic? Perhaps Richard Dawkins can help. Jim Buck.

227 Cemetery Road, Sheffield S11 8FQ.

AS A police sergeant in East Hertfordshire I supervise two constables who investigate the suitability of applicants to possess firearms and shotgun permits. They have, in the past, successfully persuaded the senior officer to revoke permits. However, such a decision is always subject to appeal to the Crown Court. Although hearsay evi-The biggest danger in the Court. Although hearsay evicase of Thomas Hamilton is that his suspected paedophilia will be conflated with his it or place much weight on it. judges are reluctant to admit it or place much weight on it. Some witnesses are unwilling to attend court. In East Hertpermit-holders (shotguns and firearms). Some of these people give me cause for concern, but on the evidence we have I am in little doubt an appeal against revocation would succeed. We cannot re-HE selection of leading son is thought of as "odd" or

THE reporting of Dunblane Edge Hill University College, has been appalling. Noth-St Helens Road, Lancs L29 4QP

fabrication which character ised the immediate aftermath of previous disasters.

Beyond the purple prose and hate-writing of the worst excesses (the simplistic, wiseafter the event commentaries on "loners", about "evil", about "weirdos"), you expect something better from the 'experts".

Without justification or qualification, Paul Barker's piece (Loner in our midst, March 15) ran together Dun-blane and the murder of James Bulger. His reference point for the latter was deeply offensive: "... the threadbare realities of life, in the urban wastelands of a city which, even now, is conforming to stereotype (dockers on strike, council rows over budget)".

Barker doesn't seem to real-ise that the prolonged dock strike and the council's budget problems are structural manifestations of a long-term decline which has victimised the people of Liverpool. What unites Liverpool and Dun-blane is the ease with which ill-conceived media and academic discourses have hijacked their tragedies and

their pain.
(Prof) Phil Scraton.
The Hillsborough Project.
Centre for Studies in Crime and Social Justice.

HAD THIS TERRIBLE DREM LAST

lt's just not cricket. Australia

recall how umpire Darrel Hair and the Mark Taylor team humiliated Sri Lanka on Boxing Day at the Melbourne Cricket Ground. Hair called seven no balls off three overs of Mutthiah Muralitharan's bowling. No umpire called Muralitharan for throwing in Lahore and he took one Aussie wicket. Ought the Australian Cricket Board to examine

Australian lost fairly and squarely to Sri Lanka in Lahore (Cricket joy for Sri Lanka, March 18). As a repentant Australian, let me play on Sri Lankan soil because of the LTTE bombing of the Central Bank in Colombo To be consistent, Australia should now refuse to play on English soil because the IRA are killing innocent people in London.

(Prof) Shelton A Gunaratne. Mass Communications Department, Moorhead State University,

Smoke signal Reds and pinks

CAMBRIDGE University's press office has just announced that BAT Industries — the tobacco transnational is to endow a professorship in international relations. In addition, there will be supporting appointments and scholarships. BAT is the second-largest cigarette man-ufacturer in the world and has a virtual monopoly in are, I believe, also part of the many developing countries. It Liberal Democrat prowould be a great help if all readers who disapprove of this lethal-drug manufacturer trying to buy respectability would make their views known to the university's Vice-Chancellor, Professor Sir David Williams.

What BAT and the other sifying out of tobacco as fast as they can. (Dr) Peter Draper.

tobacco transnationals should be doing with their ill-gotten gains is, first, stopping all promotion of tobacco and sponsoring anywhere but especially in developing countries; and second, diver-

12 Eastwood Road. Muswell Road. London N10 1NL.

Moorhead MN 56563, USA.

ONGRATULATIONS to Paddy Ashdown for guar-anteeing to end discrimina-tion against lesblans and gay men (Gay soldier saved Ash-down, March 18).

Although your report cov-ered a number of important matters, such as service in the military, it did not mention two other issues which gramme, and which particu-larly relate to young people. The first is to create a com mon age of consent for all

young people whether they are heterosexual or gay. The second is to repeal the notorious section 28 of the Local Government Act, which makes it more difficult for young homosexual people to receive the information and support they need within the education system.

It is clear that the Tories do not intend to eliminate such discrimination. But where does New Labour stand? (Dr) Michael Black. Gayton Road, London NW3 1TX.

-- @ Steve Bell 1996 --

YOU state (Labour welfare | providing for retirement than changes could save up to individual arrangements run 21bn. March 15) that the lead- | by insurance companies. ership of the Labour Party be-lieves that occupational pen-sion schemes are inflexible and that an alternative vehi-cle for second-tier pension provision needs to be developed by insurance companies working together with trades unions and employers. We are extremely surprised

at this especially as, in the March issue of the pensions industry magazine, Pensions World, an article by Chris Smith and John Denham states: "Labour is keen to ex tend the coverage of funded second-tier pensions . . This means looking for measures to strengthen existing occupa-tional pension schemes and to see how the small but grow-ing trend to establish indus-try schemes can be

encouraged."
Occupational pension schemes are not inflexible. They have adapted to meet the changing employment patterns and to the demands of new regulations. They take many forms, including indus-try-wide schemes, and are a

These messages need to be got across. For example, your report refers to job mobility and the disadvantages of frozen occupational pensions. There is no such thing as a frozen pension, thanks to a requirement that the pen-sions of job changers must be preserved and must have their real value maintained up to 5 per cent per annum, well above the current rate of inflation.

NAPF would urge the Labour Party to develop poli-cies which would build on the well-proven system of funded occupational pensions. It might start by considering a major simplification of the regulatory system so that em-ployers are further encourschemes for their employees It is also necessary to simplify the Inland Revenue regulations to encourage more employees to participate.

Tom Ross. Chairman, National Assoc. of Pension Funds Ltd., 12-18 Grosvenor Gardens. far more efficient means of London SW1W 0DH.

That big TV fight: round four

■WOULD like to point out to | now, conveniently well after David Ektein (It's a knock out, March 18) that the BBC has not misled the House of Lords on the issue of sports rights. It is Mr Elstein who is

rewriting history. We have simply questioned the circumstances in which one of last year's major sport-ing events — The Ryder Cup — was not available to the general audience, in any form, and we believe we have wide support in striving to

find ways of preventing a The PGA/BSkyB contract speaks clearly and unambiguously for itself: "For the avoidance of doubt, there will be no BBC transmission of the Ryder Cup." As "Not For

Sale" signs go, pretty clear. To nobody's surprise, there was no such BBC transmission. Not a surprise, because all of BSkyB's publicity preceding the event made much, as one would expect, of the exclusive nature of their acquisition, requiring those interested in seeing it to be subscribers to Sky Sports.
This was widely understood

publicly at the time, including in the press, who seized upon the controversy sur-rounding the loss to the gen-eral viewing audience. For Mr Elstein to claim | London N1 4JP.

the event that RSkvR wen simply sitting waiting for an offer from the BBC is frankly absurd. I leave your readers — and their Lordships in today's Third Reading of the Broadcasting Bill — to judge who is misleading whom. Will Wyatt. Managing Director.

BBC Television. Television Centre, Wood Lane, London W12 7RJ.

HE reason I was con-cerned, with others, about news access for the Bruno fight is that BSkyB did not ac-cede to it until three days before the fight. David Elstein does not seem to understand that the whole point of a BBC available to all and funded by a universal licence fee is that it has a duty to fight for access to events of national significance on behalf of the nation's viewers.

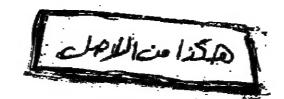
The campaign to persuade the Lords that highlights should be available for terrestrial channels is not being fought to further corporate BBC self-interest. It is on behalf of the 80 per cent of licence-payers who do not have Sky. Steven Barnett. 21 Stamford Road,

A Country Diary

records in Cheshire during county recorder, appears in the spring issue of the Lancashire and Cheshire Entomological Society newsletter. Reports during the first five poor year for the county. Spring appearances and counts were low, and in some quarters, usually plentiful species were not seen at all sence from the author's own trap. Once into and through June the weather improved, as did the records, with reports of large catches and a wide range of species which added over 100 new sightings to the 10km square recording base. However, the improve-ment did not last into the autumn when catches were again widely noted below the normal average. Amongst the successes during the summer was the addition of three

CHESHIRE: A review of moth | species to the county list - a 1995, by Ian Rutherford, the mossland in the north of the county, and the same trap produced Lempkes Gold Spot. a moth whose previous ab-sence had long puzzled the reviewer. The third, found in months of the year were far | the extreme west, was an Orfrom encouraging, with the ache Moth, a species extinct prospect of 1995 being another as a resident in the UK for as a resident in the UK for more than a century, and today recorded on extremely rare occasions as an immi-grant. The Orache was seen in July and another rare im-Pale Brindled Beauty and migrant, a Striped Hawk, was reported in early October, but examples notable by their abapart from these two, as the review states, very little else in the moth line to compare with the invasion by Camberwell Beauty Butterflies and Yellowwinged Darter Dragon flies ..." As to the most important

record of 1995, this was the discovery of a nest of larvae of the Small Eggar, a nationally scarce moth whose serious decline is attributed to pollution and the wholesale destruction of our hedgerows.



Diary

Joanna Coles

AM sincerey grateful to the News of he World for at last dowing my friend Darius uppy motto Walk With the
People but Tak With Kings
—to set the reord straight.
Darry — or Dio, as Earl
Spencer comally calls him (after thitalian mafia boss, of court!)--- was cruelly let dwn when the Daily Mirrosuddenly withdrew itrecent and, I think you'll gree, derisory offer of £75,00 to chew the fat about poon life. Last week, hower, the NoW was more gnerous, allow-ing Dino a ill four pages to recount hi ascinating tale of prison le which gave us such thouatful insights as "Prison tales away your privacy" was relieved to learn thatar from being too drunfo deliver his best man speech at Earl Spencer wedding — as had been reviously reported—Guppy was merely theep in though about his anda-

cious £ p million jewellery ply pasid him by. And as for foods the police with his britant scam of hiding £1.4 milion worth of gems in the oderbellies of Jaffa Cakes well, where did that it's come from? Alas, accoring to Guppy's ex-colleque Peter Risdon, who entually gave evi-dencagainst him, it came entisy from Guppy's imagation. As did most of the per details Dino gave the iper. Dino exaggerat-ing surely not. But Risdon insis. And after all, he wa here. Indeed, he is so incised by Dino's "contin-uo, fibs", that today he is to ke his views to the Pris Complaints Commis-sis. Appalled to hear Dino isow planning a book alut the crime, Risdon is Ha further and is poised to n a book contract him-f, to give another, less amorous side of the story. cidentally, the NoW aims it didn't pay Guppy or the interview. Instead, would make a donation to he British Diabetics' Assoation. Maybe we're being mpatient, but the BDA has et to receive a bean.

EANWHILE I am full of admiration for my friend Mandy Mandelson, who has had yet another busy week-end — I just don't know how he makes time to get to see all those constituents in Hartlepool, I really don't. On Friday night he gave a winning performance to a reception of Labour sponsors, who had gathered eager to hear him talk abou the party's new media cen-tre at Millbank. Come the election, Mandy told the ec static crowd, it will be possible to interrupt press conferences anywhere in the country and beam in live appearances from Tony air, Gordon Frown and Robin Cook, Strange . . . But I am sure tie omission of John Prescott's good name was but amere

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N Saturlay Mandy was off igain, this time to lambridge, where he addressed the Young FabianSociety, with Roger Liddle, o-author of his delirious well-written book The Blaj Objective — which I was trilled to see nestling in the bestseller list yesterdayat number five. Congratilations Mandy! The Abianettes were enchaned by both authors and jere confused only by the empeting array of offers avaiable to pur-chase the bok. I am only glad I did nohave to face their centradilemma: should theyake advantage of a cheap sbscription to the New Stresman, thus ensuring see delivery of Dillons' geerous offer of a free glass (wine and a coupon worth I redeemable only againt purchase?

ND ow for the latest whize from L've TV whre my friend Kel-vin MacEnzie has been hungrily dvertising for scantily ad weather girls. He plansp select a Norwegian lass ho will read the weathereport in her native tonge. Only the final words othe forecast will be in Englih — and they will give a diailed weather report & Nordkiosbotn. Innovave is not the word.

Nina Brussel's bucherie: "British pef. You won't get

I THE THE BALD SPOTS RAISE INTERESTING



Stakeholder needs a self-reliant bedfellow

Commentary

Hugo Young

ONY BLAIR talks about electoral reform as though it were an imponderable experi-ment. Each time he mentions it, or causes it to be men-tioned on his behalf, he makes it sound like an artefact that requires extensive investigation, which he has barely begun, before it can be accurately defined and dated. The party leader comes on like an archaeologist for whom it would be irresponsible to pass even an interim judgment on this mysterious, and possibly dangerous, phenomenon lurking beneath the surface of British politics.

This is a misleading account of the state of the reforming science. I hope Mr reforming science. I hope Mr Blair doesn't really believe it. For it is hard to think of any

speculative project in the whole of politics that is better

documented or has been more

tenaciously studied than the modalities of electoral

reform. Its principles and va-

tified debate, about each and every voting system as it might apply to the British body politic on an almost limitless range of assumptions. There is nothing left to find out except how the voters would react to a different voting system if they were of-fered the opportunity to use one. But that's what no politician knows about any voting system, including the present

culation, shelves-full of quan-

So Mr Blair should not, in truth, be seen as a mystified scientist in the early stages of inquiry. He is a political man of power who is not yet pre-pared to accept that the sophisticated measurements already made point in the direction of his party's

advantage.
But he is beginning to drop a few hints. This weekend, the line changed. It was authoritatively said on his behalf that reform had its mer-its, at any rate if confined to the so-called Alternative Vote system, which is the least proportional available but gives the voter the chance to rank candidates in order of preference, thus ensuring that in every constituency the elected MP has attracted support from an absolute majority of participating citizens.

In 1992, assuming the sys-tem itself hadn't exercised its lidity are clear beyond a own influence on voting pat-doubt. There are tomes of calterns, AV would have had

small effect. It might have given the Lib Dems 10 more seats, and the Tories 10 fewer. But for Blair to countenance any shift from the presen system begins to open up a debate. He himself has yet to utter, and one is assured the laboratory technicians are a long way from concluding definitively that AV is not the political equivalent of Piltdown Man. But the earth is moving, and two conse-quences beckon.

The first is to make better

sense of Labour's entire constitutional project. There is multiple perversity about constitutional reforms which insist on doing nothing about elections. Such conservatism announces a substantial retreat from any visionary desire to shake up the political system and reinvigorate the wiring of popular consent. Labour, and Blair more than anyone, is obsessed with the need for renewal in every field. That's the rhetoric that supports Labour's case for constitutional change. It has serious missionary pretensions. But not only would the rejection of electoral reform make this project broken-backed, it would probably im-

peril its very enactment.
This is because of the second target at which Blair's adjustment must be aimed, namely the Liberal Demo-crats. To anyone who keeps close to Labour's ideas for constitutional reform it's

pretty obvious that the Lib attention of both Lab and Lib Dems will be indispensable to it. The degree of Labour Party unity behind even the most good to see Paddy Ashdown urgent of its promises, on Scottish devolution, is moot. The chances of a Blair government getting into a terri-ble mess, either with the party or with Parliament, are better than even. The need, therefore, for solid support from the party that invented this agenda and has been working it over for two decades is obvious. That party, however, has its price: elec-toral reform. And modest as the attractions are of the AV system, the Blair people's move to publicise their dabbling with it is the beginning of a more serious search for

Personally, I see no reason why this couldn't go much further. Perhaps I fantasise. But the notion of a reform ment built on more explicit understandings beween Labour and the Lib

It would begin in privacy but could become an exercise acknowledged to be going on

Dems seems, given the priorities they share, the surest way of seeing these brought to pass. Electoral reform, simultaneously, is by far the soundest guarantee against half-done changes being undone by a new rightwing Tory government equipped with the sectarian and renophobic meindices it is bound to cultiprejudices it is bound to cultivate during a few wilderness years. I see the arrangement of a political alliance between all reform-minded elements

good to see Paddy Ashdown staking out the Lib Dems' own ground at the weekend. His speech was erroneously tagged as anti-Labour. It same, the slogan, compara-ble with "stakeholding", to which he pinned the Lib Dems was striking. To whom else should "the self-relian individual" appeal but wavering Tory voters, the kind the Lib Dems risk losing if they get too close to Labour? This was shrewd positioning by Ashdown, more old Liberal than old SDP just the kind of stuff with which to reassure the ranks when they're faced, as I hope they will be, with the need to engage in the joint politics of political reform.

They will argue, of course, with the AV system. It is only modest tinkering, and has little to do with proportional representation. But system should not be a bar to serious talking. The question now is whether Blair has sent a seri-ous signal. Such is his caution, he may be waiting to see what reaction comes from the weekend flirtations. But I've got no doubt what ought now to happen. Sharing a constitu-tional agenda which the Tories utterly oppose, Labour and the Lib Dems have nothing to lose by examining how this might be made a joint venture. It would begin in pri-vacy but could become, if the preliminaries were success-ful, an exercise acknowledged

to be going on. It wouldn't attain the level of the convention that engaged Scottish Lib Dems and Labour for six years. But it would prove that the project was serious: a demonstration, I fear, that Labour has yet to otherwise it may never truly

uphold genuine gender

equality.
This does not only apply to lesbians and gay men in the armed forces. It applies to all lesbians and gay men. All are without protection in law. My employer, the MoD, ques-tioned me about my sex life, questioned my colleagues and friends about my sex life and circulated documents about my sex life. It is unimaginable t these actions, clearly sexual harassment, would have been tolerated in an employer if the employee in question had been a woman not de-

fined as lesbian.
The MoD should be obliged to define what it considers places a person outside the protection of the law in this way. How lesbian or gay do you have to be in order to be refused protection under the law? One fantasy? One fling? Bisexuality? Urges which are not acted on?

relationships or feelings to have become sexual anyway? If you spend too much time alone with a best friend? People are sacked without ever having committed any exual act at all. Others are sacked regardless of whether they define themselves as lesbian or gay or not.

S IN wider society. in the military it is heterosexual men who administer most sexual harassment to women. I witnessed and experienced this type of harass-ment during my years in the forces. Indeed, men are better protected in law from the sexual advances of each other than women are from the sexual advances that men make

on them.

Some of my male colleagues objected when women were allowed to go to sea, just as some of my heterosexual colleagues are objecting to the service of lesbian and gay personnel now. But the armed forces are not there to be anybody's private club, with a social set allocating membership only to those in their

social set. There are reasons enough to abandon a blanket ban in favour of a Code of Conduct. resources, especially while the forces are struggling to recruit in sufficient numbers; people's jobs can be lost if they are honest about themselves, the expense of training people only to sack them.

Lesbian and gay sexuality is accused of being "incompatible with service life", yet our sexuality plays no part in our service lives. The Master of the Rolls himself declared that the interrogation and dis-missal of lesbian and gay people "would not appear to show much respect for the person's private and family life", yet the law made no move to uphold our entitle-ment to that respect. If my private and family life, operating within the law of the land, can nevertheless be le-gally investigated, invaded and used against me, then everybody's private and family life is at exactly the same

Only a Bill of Rights can grant us freedom as an inalienable possession. Let what is happening to lesbian and gay people in the military serve as a vivid example of what is possible on a larger scale if we do not secure a Bill of Rights for everybody.

Liz Campion, a Royal Navy Lieutenant 1989-95, has been working with Charter 88's

Why so many rapists tagged as anti-Labour. It didn't make a single mention of the Labour Party. All the same the slogan comparate.



ICHAEL HOWARD has robustly defended his proposals for man-datory life sentences for serial rapists. "Do you want rapists freed?" ran a frontpage headline in one news-paper, as Mr Howard dis-missed Lord Taylor's bjections to his plans. Well, do you want rapists freed? How many women read the headline and thought: here is a man who shares our intoler ance of rape; here is a man who wants to tilt the justice system to the concerns of the victim; here is a man who cares?

Jill Saward, who was brutally raped in the notorious Vicarage case in 1986, has already spoken strongly in favour of the proposal. Her rapists were given sentences of three and five years shorter than the sent the burglary they also com-mitted. "The judiciary are increasingly remote from the fears of ordinary people," she said last week, with vivid personal feeling. But this undeniable sense

of alienation that many rape survivors feel when faced with the justice system will hardly be addressed by man-datory life sentences. Jill Saward has also commented on the huge discrepancy be tween her own experiences and what was brought out as evidence in the courtroom. The judge — who could have chosen life sentences — gave out such short sentences be-cause, he said, she had made a good recovery. But she strongly disagreed, and she should know. "What are we meant to do?" she commented later. "Wear a sign? Nobody in the court ever asked how felt, or asked anybody else how I was."

Her experience is not unique. In new research, to be published next month in Carnal Knowledge (Hamish Ham-ilton), Professor Sue Lees shows that three-quarters of women whose rape cases went to trial felt distressed, allowed to explain fully what happened. And until the experiences and words of women who have been raped become more central to the trial. women will continue to feel that the legal process is tilted

against the victim.
Is it possible to imagine a system that doesn't so rele-

as a witness. The intervening process operates without her the police send her statement to the Crown Prosecution Service, if the CPS proceeds with the case, its solicitor briefs a barrister. The woman has no contact with the barrister, no chance to communicate her trauma or further illuminate salient aspects of the case. She can feel silenced as the trial proceeds. Even barris-ters defending the accused man often comment with hor-ror on the lack of interest and empathy displayed by the Crown's barristers.

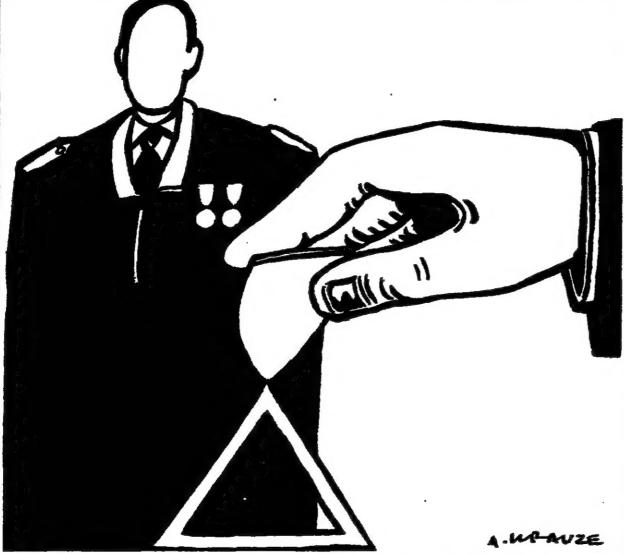
As the barristers.
As the barrister Jill Evans sees it, "At the moment the woman can feel used. She is just told to come here and go there, and no one really explains what's going on to her. She is often unable to understand why she can't meet 'her' barrister." Many lawyers are now eager to see the Crown Prosecution Service opening up communication with the victim as it decides whether and how to proceed

This thoroughgoing reform would also have an effect on the most important outcome of all — not the sentence, but the verdict. As long as the victim's experience is so side-lined and downgraded, the charge — which often stands or falls on the victim's word - tends to fail. The conviction rate in recorded rape cases has dropped alarmingly in the last ten years, from 24 per cent in 1985 to less than 10 per cent today. Michael How-ard's bright little idea will do nothing to change that de-pressing statistic, the real reason why so many rapists walk free.

NDEED, many lawyers be-lieve that mandatory life sentences could have an adverse effect on the rate of conviction. Last week, the Times printed a pointed letter from Helena Kennedy QC, in which she argued that "rapists facing automatic life sen-tences will have no incentive to plead guilty. They will contest the most clear-cut cases". Similarly, she and other law-yers also believe that the prospect of life sentences would make juries even more reluctant to convict.

And others, from the Lord Chief Justice to spokeswomen at Women Against Rape, have argued that mandatory life sentences would make women more vulnerable by increasing the possibility of a Howard has airily dismissed such fears, arguing that a rap-ist would not be sufficiently "calm and rational" to calculate those risks. Do murder-ers have to be calm? And if he were wrong, just once, could anyone say that his sparkling political career had been worth that mistake?

gate the victim's experience?
Currently, once a raped woman has made a statement to the police, that is the end of her involvement until, if the case goes to trial, she is called



Freedom fighters

Paddy Ashdown says a gay Marine officer who saved his life was 'kicked out of the services'. Liz Campion, herself a lesbian sacked from the Navy, argues that we need a Bill of Rights to

the military for six years. I was a lieutenant in the Joint Services Interrogation Organisa-tion, until in August 1995 I was dismissed for being a le bian — even though the Min-istry of Defence had known of my sexuality for some years.
Today I will be giving evidence to the parliamentary
select committee dealing with

the Armed Forces Bill, which is considering the current ban on lesbians and gay men in the military. I will explain why the ban constitutes legal-ised discrimination, and legalised invasion of personal privacy. That the law in this country has sanctioned abuses of human rights such

as these is of grave concern. My dismissal is currently the subject of an appeal through the military com-plaints system. It will then go on, along with those of others, to an industrial tribunal. There it will be argued once again that my treatment, along with theirs, constitutes sexual harassment in breach of the recommendations of Europe's Directive on the Protection of the Dignity of Women and Men at Work. and, as such breaches the Sex

protect us whatever our sexual bent SERVED as a lesbian in | Europe's Equal Treatment Di

> In November 1995 the Ar peal Court decided that this European legislation does not apply to us as lesbians and gay men. Equal treatment is only to be afforded to beterosexuals. It is therefore legal to sexuals, it is therefore legal to sack someone for being lesbian or gay. This means that, under the British legal system's interpretation of European law, only the most superficial rights to equality exist. Lesbians and gay men will continue to find them-selves without the protection

> It is becoming increasingly clear that this is an incorrect interpretation of European law. The Ministry of Defence itself has been made aware that it is likely to lose any action in the European Court. where it appears probable it would be forced to rescind its ban. Despite this, the MoD seems intent on persisting with its unjust and unnecessary policy, the only result of which will be prolonged un-certainty for the armed forces

vey, already discredited, Discrimination Act and which it claims reveals the It would apply equally to het- country is not prepared to Chizens Enquiry

the matter. The only tangible personnel Under the Stone-reason the ministry produced to support the ban was the would be an offence if it was prejudice against gay men and lesbians it had claimed to identify with this survey. We are therefore left with a situation where government is prepared to allow the law to protect prejudice rather than its victims. Would we expect govern-ment, having recently also vilian law.

identified racism in the forces, to ban black people in order to deal with the problem? Or would we expect the racism itself to be tackled? Surely all issues of prejudice should be dealt with in the same way. Currently everybody in

Britain is a subject, not a citizen. The battle for lesbians and gay men in the military is part of the wider battle for full citizenship for everybody. This brings with it issues of rights and responsibilities. We want to recognise our respossibilities as members of the whole society, as well as expecting to be allowed to be ourselves within that society. We are asking for our right to serve, but we are also asking to take the responsibility of

lesbians and gay men is sometimes seen as evidence of the moral decay in our society. But the campaign for reform, of which I am part, calls for a ship with a woman, but a tightening not a relaxing, of moral standards. Stonewall. and huge expense for the lesbian and gay lobby has to be direct discrimination on the grounds of gender.

Earlier this month the MoD published the results of a surpublished the results o Forces Bill select committee. strates that the law in this

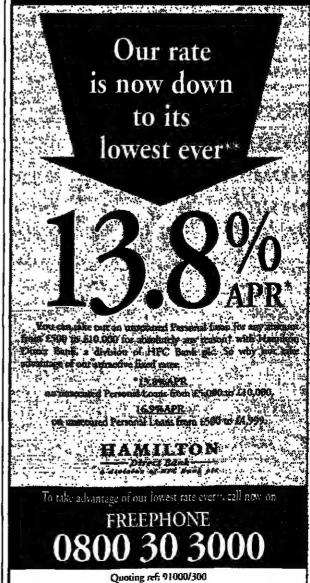
prejudicial to good order and discipline, undermined command relationships, involved the use of rank or position to obtain sexual favours or constituted an offence under ci-

Our campaign asks that actions, not who carries them out, be judged. If it is acceptable to love a woman, it is acceptable whoever does so heterosexual man or lesbian woman. As it is not acc to have sex with a child, it is not acceptable whoever does it, heierosexual or gay. Any society which judges an action merely by the person who carries it out cannot be considered just or fair. Everybody is at risk if the law does not respect the privacy, thoughts, conscience ship and service of us all.

The Court of Appeal de-cided that lesbian and gay

people are to be judged en-

tirely differently from other people. As long as you treat lesbians and gay men as badly as each other, you are within the law. This means that it is legal to refuse to employ lesbians, to sack The increasing visibility of them, or to mistreat them if you do employ them, as long as you do the same to gay men. If it is acceptable for a man to have a sexual relationwoman can lose her job for exactly the same thing, this has to be direct discrimina-tion on the grounds of gender.



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A rare compassion

years — following his great feature debut *La Bataille du* Rail (1946) — he was arguably the most highly regarded of all French directors — not just within France, but internationally and notably in Italy, the US and Britain.

He was the recipient of nuing Oscars and Césars, and enjoyed both critical and commercial success, enabling him to work with leading technicians, writers and actors. At least a handful of his films, including his semi-doc-umentary debut, the miracu-

lous and timely Les Jeux Interdits (1952), the sophisticated sex comedy Knave of Hearts (1954) the sombre real-(1949) and his stylish version of a Patricia Highsmith Ripley novel, Plein Soleil (1959) have stood the test of time, if not fashion. Several others among his relatively sparse output are worthy of note as intriguing, if flawed, co-productions. It was his gradual move to co-production which enlarged his budgets but led to a diminution of personality and of his social and political his long life he did not direct, effectively ending his career

Clément was born in Bor-deaux and studied architec-ture at the Ecole des Beaux Arts, showing an interest in cinema from his late teens, making an animated short as movie business proper in 1933, when the death of his father curtailed his studies. He made further short films and became a writer for Jac-ques Tati, directing him in



Knave of Hearts (1954) . . . the sophisticated black comedy, starring Gérard Phillipe and Joan Greenwood, was considered his most elegant work

mentaries and shorts includ-ing the political L'Arabie In-verdite (1937). During 1939 and 1940 he was in the film-making section of the French Army. Later he made several short works, including Court Demain (1944) until the war's ture, using mainly non-profes-

sional actors. *La Bataille du Rail* remains the most important film (among few contenders) about the French resistance. It Clément, confirming his seri-ous political views, his consession with the war. At 32, tt the Best Director award at Cannes where the film also received the Palme d'Or as

It ranks with Rossellini's

Monsieur Hulot. During the remainder of the decade he travelled widely, made docu-Rossellini for several years he ranked alongside him. It was at this time that Clément, his cameraman Henri Alekan, and co-writer on Bataille, Colette Audrey, founded a cine-club which was to develop into I D H E C — the powerful French Film School

> period Clément worked as technical adviser to Jean Cocteau on La Belle et la Bête (1946) and as associate director to Noël-Noël on *Le Père*Tranquille (1946), the story of a mild clerk who is the leader of a local resistance group. Although a minor work, the subject continued to intrigue Clement and he returned to the resistance — with the un-usual aspect of a woman as the central figure — in 1962 with Le Jour et L'Heure and, famously, with the massive, Is Paris Burning? (1966). In 1947, Clément directed Les Maudits set on board a

graphed by Alekon, it started the director's long-term inductions. It is a *tour de force*, a tense and claustrophobic study of fugitives and men under pressure — with a background of war. He moved on to a co-produc-tion, Au-Delà des Grilles

(1949), starring Jean Gabin. Set in post-war Genoa, it tells of the love affair between a French sailor and a Genoan woman. For her role, Isa Miranda was voted Best Actress at Cannes and Clement received Best Director, and the movie later received the Oscar for Best Foreign Film. realism and film noir. After *Le Château de Verre*

(1950) where he experimented with time. Clément directed his most famous film, Les Jeux Interdits (1952). Despite comparative unpopularity in France and its rejection by Cannes and the authorities in France, who were disturbed by it, the movie confirmed his international reputation. It work and tells the story of an orphaned girl who finds temporary refuge - during the second world war - with a peasant family, only to be sep famous for its haunting guitar music by Yepes — was, for Clément, not about childhood the Golden Lion at the Venice Festival and the 1952 Oscar, as Best Foreign Film.

ordinary people and victims of war, Clement embarked on his most unlikely project, a Franco-British movie, Knave of Hearts (1954). It is a sophisof Hearts (1954). It is a sophisticated black comedy starring his country's greatest romantic actor. Gérard Phillipe, who plays a philanderer recounting his past affairs—which have ruined him—to his wife, elegantly played by Valerie Hobson. This witty comedy bears stylish comparison with the more famous Kind Hearts and Coronets made five years earlier. Suliant use of London locations tt is virtually unknown today and has suffered the indignity of release as Lovers, Happy Lovers and Lover Boy. For his final, solely French

production. Clément made his only period film — the fifth screen version of Zola's L'Assommoir, set in Montmartre in the 1850s. His obsession with documentary fidelity gives the film a savage intensity, rather let down by the mawkish central perfor-mance by Maria Schell — a part which still gained her the Best Actress award and helped make the film a box

exclusively on co-productions and less personal projects. However, many critics greatly admire the star-laden The Sea Wall (1968), shot in



A strong sense of political commitment . . . French film director, René Clément

Thailand, and the re-issue of Plein Soleil (1959) confirmed it as a summy, yet paradoxically noirish version of a Highsmith novel with the 24-year-old Alain Delon devastating

as the sexually ambiguous and murderous hero. By now Clément was working with another great cameraman, Henri Decae, from whom he demanded a "liberated camera". Alongside Knave of Hearts, this black comedy

Vidal and Francis Coppola. Again concerned with the resistance, it was - at over three hours — a far cry from his lean and raw debut. Other later movies included

Le Passager de la Pluie (1964) La Maison sous les Arbres (1971) and his last, a co-pro-duction entitled La Baby-Sitter, after which he retired from active film-making. In 1984 he received an honorary Hearts, this black comedy remains his most elegant work and the last of his truly successful movies.

His remaining eight features achieved less limited release, with the exception of the massive Is Paris Burning?, which he directed from a complicated screenplay by a gaggle of writers, including regular collaborators Aurusahe.

reluctance") to continue ith personal films. tures is now largelyne. glected, even by televion and the National Ilm tory. But for those of us 'no grew to cinema awareness, his heyday, it is impossible forget his sense of pointed

detail and realism and a ri-

Marvels of nature as a path to truth

poets, writers and artists known collectively as "The generation of the thirties", which included Greece's other Nobel poet, George

Seferis. Born Odysseus Alepoudel-lis in Heraklion, Crete, his family were from Leshos where his father had set up a They moved to Athens when Elytis was three. He finished his secondary education his secondary education in Athens, studying law at the university before abandoning his studies to devote himself

to poetry.

An important factor in his poetic development was his meeting and friendship with Andreas Embirikos, the poet and psychiatrist, who was responsible for introducing the Greek public to surrealism. Without ever becoming an orthodox surrealist himself, Elytis was particularly influenced by surrealism's anti-rational character and by the emphasis it placed on the senses. This influence is most evident in his first poems published in the literary magazine Nea Grammata in 1935, under the pseudonym of Odysseus Elytis. This pseud-onym was carefully chosen with its associations in Greek with the words for hope, free-dom, elite, Hellas, Heleni, and possibly also Eluard, another major influence on his early poetry.
His first collections, Orien-

tations (1939) and Sun the First (1943) were stimulated rather than influenced by surrealism, and constitute a lyrical metamorphosis of the Greek landscape, particularly of the Aegean. Paeans to love, to all levels of Greek society.

I brought my life this far

Forever near the sea

Where is a man to go

Of a seagull vanishes.

lished by Anvil Press

O Life

To this spot which struggles

Youth upon the rocks, breast

Who is nothing other than a man

Moments, with waters the visions

Of a child who becomes a man

Forever near the sea when the sun

Teaches him to breathe there where the shadow

The opening lines of Anniversary, translated by Edmund Keeley and Philip Sherrard, from Selected Poems, pub-

Reckoning with the coolness his green

Of his hearing, with wings his remorse

To breast against the wind

Anniversary by Odysseus Elytis

the senses. In this, Elytis was more a nature philosopher than a nature poet, which perhaps explains his aversion to being characterised, somewhat superficially, as "poet of

the Aegean".

The outbreak of the second world war and the subsequent Greek involvement found Elytis fighting on the Albanian front. His experiences of war found their outlet in his long poem, Heroic and Elegiac Song for the Lost Second Lieutenant of the Albanian Campaign, written in 1943, and much later with the publication in 1959 of his epic poem, The Axion Esti.

When the Swedish Academy awarded him the Nobel this poem was singled out as one of 20th-century literarichly faceted poems". It is a work of incomparable complexity of structure, with per-haps a greater historical and moral awareness than his first poems, yet with no less of the inventive imagery bequeathed to him by

In its three parts, Genesis, The Passions, and Gloria, it evokes Greece's heritage and its recent history, and at the same time charts the development of the poet's own sensibility. The poem's popularity was assured when it was set to music by the Greek com-poser Mikis Theodorakis in the early 1960s. Indeed Elyserved by popular composers such as Hadjidakis, Marco-poulos and Andriopoulos, whose music has conveyed it

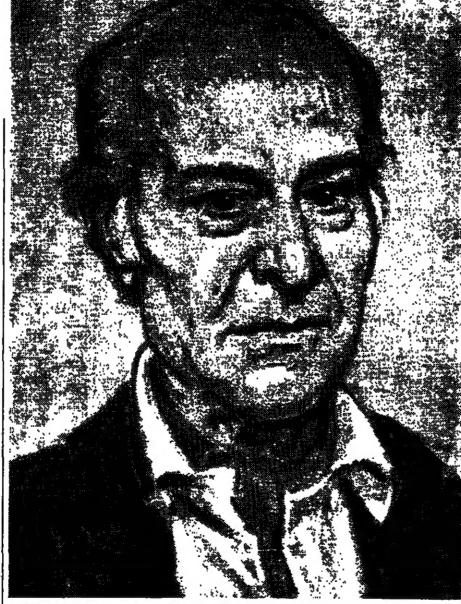
DYSSEUS Elytis, and an innocent childlike the Greek Nobel prize-winning poet, has died in Athens ed 84. He was the last of a table generation of Greek leading to truth perceived not table generation of Greek through the mind but through ways had a prominent place in Elytis's poetry, here acquires a metaphysical dimen-sion and enables Elytis to characterise this and subsequent collections in terms of a "solar metaphysics". It is in this collection that Elytis becomes more concerned with the magical, revelatory func-tion of poetry. The poet's mission, according to Elytis, is to effect a new perception of reality, or, as Shelley put it, "to create the world anew". Elytis, perhaps more than any other Greek poet, has shown a remarkable capacity for development in his work, both thematically and techni-cally. He once again startled the literary world in Greece with the publication in 1991 at the age of 80 of The Occeptor Elegies, which a number of critics regard as containing some of his finest and most

important poems.

Depite long periods of silence, Elytis published some 17 collections of poetry and two large volumes of essays on poets, poetry and literary matters. He also translated numerous works by ancient Greek poets, notably Sappho and Crinagoras, and modern European poets including Lorca, Ungaretti, Eluard and Rimbaud among others. De-spite failing health, he never ceased writing and in December 1995, he published a col-lection of poetry entitled West of Sorrow and a book of prose vritings, The Garden of Self

> Financial independence thanks to the family business enabled Elytis to devote him entated throughout his life to his literary work. He travelled extensively, living for long periods during the post-war years and the years of the dictatorship in France, where he associated with leading poets and artists of his genera-tion such as Breton, Eluard, Jouve, Char, Ungaretti, Matisse, Chagall, Giacometti and Picasso. For the last 30 years, he lived simply in a small two-room apartment in the centre of Athens together with his few cherished books. He was fortunate in having the devoted companionship of Ioulita Iliopoulou in his later years, when confined to his apartment where he continued to work and write and where he was to die of heart

failure. In January this year, the Hellenic Foundation for Culture in London celebrated Elytis's work with an evening



Nobel Prize winner . . . Greek poet Rlytis in a portrait by Yannis Moralis

tis particularly admired. The Oxopetra Elegies is shortly to be published in a bi-lingual edition by Harwood Academic Press

David Connolly

Edmund Keeley writes: I met Elytis when I was first dis-covering the pleasures of Modern Greek poetry in 1951, while writing a D Phil disser tation at Oxford and translating his early poetry along with that of Cavafy and Seferis. I was much taken by Elytis's joyful evocation of the Aegean world in his freewheeling verse, and when I began translating it, initially for my own enjoyment, he was helpful in suggesting ways of rendering his some times surrealist imagery into English by way of French analogies, his knowledge of English being strictly

I discovered that in those days his vision of the Aegean was sustained almost entirely by his imagination, since he rarely travelled be-

friend, the poet and lyricist, Nikos Gatsos, used to kid him about his lack of enthusiasm for getting his feet on to sandy shores and immers-ing himself in the blue waters that his poetry so ar-dently celebrated. Eventually, he regularly spent his summers on the island of Aegina, but in general, he was reticent about travel, and during his one trip to the United States some years

after I met him, he found any number of excuses for staying in New York City and receiving visitors in his hotel. The one time I walked the streets of New York in his company, I remember him expressing his alarm at the 'est early verse, calling it "underworld effect" of steam rising up through gratings in cially critical of what is per-

work, The Axion Esti, Elytis | ular celebrations of the lightwas again very helpful in rich landscape and hedonis-

the plants and flowers offered in the poem: "How do I know? I'm not a botanist. I chose those plants and flowers for the sound of their names. So when you trans-late them, you do the same." Elytis had been silent for more than a decade before the publication in 1961 of that long, three-part poem, and he had great faith in its quali-ties despite the initial, rather luke-warm response of some of his literary friends. Time has borne him out: the poem is still regarded as the high point of his poetic career. On the other hand, in his late years he became rather sarcastic about some of his fin-

the pavement.

During a later period.

when George Savidis and I
were translating his major

Modest flyer for the glory of Wales

greatest wing three-quarters produced by Wales but he same against England in 1927 only took up rugby by accident. He came from north Wales, a soccer heartland, Gareth Edwards rememand his school did not have rugby on its curriculum until Bebb was in the sixth form. But within three years, he was making his debut against England when he scored the only try of the game. Bebb scored six of his 11 tries for

Wales seainst England. His father, W Ambrose Bebb, was a lecturer who had been closely involved with the nationalist party Platd Cymru since it began in the 1920s and he had edited its newspaper, Y Ddraig Goch. When he retired from rugby. Bebb, too, moved into journal-ism and presented the Welsh magazine programme Y Dydd before becoming news direc-

tor of HTV.

Bebb was only the third

North Wales Schools' player to win his senior cap after Wilfred Wooller and Bleddyn Williams, and when he was chosen to play against Eng-land in 1959, he had only made two appearances for his

Bebb was one of the fastesi players in the game having run 100 yards in 9.9 seconds, but he played in an era when backs had few chances and when it was rare for an international team to reach double figures. His attitude was that if the ball was not going to come to him, he was going to

The approach served him well, not least in his debut when he picked up a rebound from an England throw-in at a line-out and, in his own words: "I just set off. Before I knew it, I had crossed the line. The funny thing was that there was this complete silence for two or three seconds. I could not understand it. Then, suddenly, there was this huge roar from 60,000 people." Wales won 5-0. The selection of Bebb on the left wing had been the talk of Welsh rugby because of his inexperience. It was a position where Wales had made

Birthdays

Ursula Andress, actress, 60; Ornette Coleman, jazz saxo-phonist, 66; Peter Cotes, actor, director, 84; Patrick McGoohan, actor, 68; Paul Mariand, Conservative MP,

BEWI BEBB, who has nine changes in 11 matches, died of cancer at the but Bebb then made 18 congregor of 57, was one of the secutive appearances and

"He was a player of excep-tional ability but he was a modest man. I cannot remember anyone saying a bad word about him."

Bebb toured with the British and Irish Lons to South Africa in 1962 and to Australia and New Lealand four years later when he finished as the top try sorer with 14. Cardiff City (ouncil had refused him leave of absence to make the 196 tour but he went and wrotehis letter of resignation on he way. On his return, he moved into

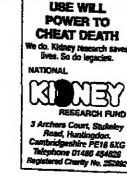
David Plummer

Dewi lorwerth Ellis Bebb, rugby August 7, 1938; did March 14.

Death Notices

and Stoke Common Thomba to annularly measing his passage through discelliness, huseral Service at Stoyer through chical liness, huseral Service at Stoyer through chical number of the Service of Stoyer Court, Stoke Popes at gen Afre wellowed to follow at Fox and Pheasiant of Colors to Robert of the Service Treatment to Colors to The British Lung Foundarit at E. Sargeard & Son. 40 Church Streetingh St. 1 (PJ Tet 01753 55006)

■To place your announcement to mene 0171 713 4567 Fax G171 717 3109



providing some access to his tic spirit of contemporary 56; Lord Plant of Highfield, Professor of Politics, South-ampton University, 51; Philip more obscure images and al- Greece. lusions. I remember his saying at one point, when I Odysseus Elytis [Alepoudellis]. Roth, novelist, 63; Brian devoted to his poetry and that yound his home in the Kolon-of William Blake, whom Ely- aki section of Athens. His botanical identity of some of died March 18, 1996 Rust, discographer, 74; Mary

pour sions

Financial Editor: Alex Brummer Telephone: 0171-239-9610 Fax: 0171-833-4456

FinanceGuardian

Unelected quangos spend £13bn every year, calaculates Prescott

Labour will give clout to regions

Rebecca Smithers Political Correspondent

ABOUR will this week announce raditralise regional economic decisionmaking away from Whitehall to speed up regeneration in Britain's poorest areas, in the first taste of the contents of a regional policy document due

in speeches to a Manchester conference on Friday, Labour's deputy leader, John Prescott, and shadow home stress the need to link economic regeneration with democratically accountable regional government to create jobs and improve living stan-

They will attack Conservative regional policy, as having been characterised by a shift away from locally elected councillors and into the hands of Whitehall and ap-pointed quangos. Mr Prescott calculates that

around £13 billion every year is spent by unelected bodies on public economic investment, and wants to get eco-nomic regeneration under way in the first year of a Labour government by devolving responsibility, initially to economic developthe lines of those already op-erating in Scotland and

In England and Wales they would be organised to reflec regional boundaries, and would bring public and private partnerships to-

They would be expected eventually to be absorbed into regional chambers of elected councillors - and ultimately regional assemblies. Mr Prescott will set out the

scale of the need for economic regeneration, blaming Con-servative policies for leaving Britain with the poorest regions in northern Europe.

ernment's rules for aid to the 1960s were applied today, only

ify. Clitherce, Lancashire, and Winchester and Eastleigh, Hampshire are the only parts of Britain enjoying bet-ter economic conditions than the qualifying criteria for assisted area status in 1966, when unemployment in the

3.3 per cent.
Mr Prescott will tell the conference: "This is a de-pressing illustration of the extent to which unemployment and economic failure are simply accepted by this government as beyond remedy. Whole areas have been writ-

His commitment will underline one of the little-publicised themes of Labour leader Tony Blair's "power to the people" John Smith me-morial lecture last month, which argued for democrati-cally accountable regional

More detailed proposals are expected to be be set out in the formal report of Labour's Regional Policy Commission, headed by Bruce Millan, former European commissioner on regional policy.

The document is expected to recommend stronger sup-port for small and mediumprivate sector involvement in public sector projects.
The details of Labour's po-

satisfaction among Britain's chambers of commerce with complaints that the rise of ap ing of local authorities have undermined local account-

A meeting of the chambers' national council today will formally debate proposals for regional forums, which have been explored by a working

group.

These would be organised along European lines and have representatives nomi-nated by the constituencies of relevant economic bodies which are democratically controlled Gocal authorities, chambers of commerce and poorest areas will show that if trade unions) and would be the criteria in force in the chaired by a government min-



an image of its financial

Larry Elliott Sconemics Editor

ONSERVATIVE plans

for a vote-winning beauty Budget in Novem-

ber were being called into question last night after offi-

cial figures showed state bor-

rowing on course to top £30 billion this year.

City analysts said the

recent slowdown in the econo-

my had left Chancellor Ken-neth Clarke with little hope of

hitting his £29 billion forecast

for the public sector borrow-ing requirement this year. They predicted that Mr

Clarke — who has twice revised his forecast upwards

n the past year — would miss

MULTIMEDIA Corporation | left to right, director Ed turned to London Zoo for | Miller, chairman Duncan in image of its financial Thomas and managing di-performance in 1995. rector Ciaran Doyle The management team of, reported a profit of

That would leave the PSBR

above £30 billion for the fourth

year in a row and have knock-on effects for the next finan-

cial year, when the size of the

Government's projected bor-rowing will be crucial in as-

sessing the scope for tax cuts. Treasury economists have al-ready started outline planning

for November's package. In the 1994 Budget, Mr

Clarke estimated the Govern-ment would need to borrow

£21.5 billion to cover the gap between its spending and in-come in 1995/96. That was

amended to £23.5 billion last summer and £29 billion in No-

2123,198 — against the previous year's £94,015 loss — ROM title, The Wide World after a 51 per cent rise in of Animals, is launched in

his target by at least | PSBR to justify tax cuts in No- | £2.951 billion, slightly less

vember, but analysts said last night that a combination of

sluggish consumer demand

and the expansion of part-time jobs meant this move-ment was much slower than

The Treasury's compilation

of forecasts from City and academic economists shows

that the consensus for next year is more than £2 billion

above Mr Clarke's budget forecast of £22.5 billion. Yesterday's figures were in-

fluenced by the proceeds from

privatisations. The second

erators offer, sales of electric

ity debentures and BAA

any improvement in the for February stood at likely to be £33.5 billion.

Britain on Friday.

than the City expected.

However, excluding state
sell-offs, the PSBR last month

was £4.4 billion, only slightly down on the comparable

£5.1 billion in February 1995.

PSBR, excluding privatisa-tion, was £25 billion, down from £30.4 billion last year.

Including privatisations, the total has been reduced from

Alex Garrard, economist a

City firm UBS, said March would see the traditional "scramble" by government departments to exhaust their

budgets, adding that the

terday. "But if the pound can

show its present very limited

other EU currencies in 1998.

this will count more than

whether the pound is in the system itself."

Contrary to the claims of

£25.8 billion to £22.2 billion.

For the first 11 months of

Notebook

Why carp about Lord Weinstock?



Edited by Alex Brummer

HE recent bounce in the share price of GEC has been widely attributed to settlement of the Weinstock succession issue, which has been a pre-occupation for the

City.

Now that the white smoke has gone up from Stanhope Gate, with the mantle passing to George Simpson of Lucas, there are new complaints. Some City sources argue that the transfer will take too long others complain that as emeritus chairman Lord Weinstock will not be able to keep his hands out of GEC's affairs and others would like to see a strong, independent chair-

strong, independent chair-man in place to succeed Lord Prior before making a formal judgment about the future. Much of this is, of course, nonsense. In a group liks GEC, where large contracts in power and defence are such a crucial part of the business, Weinstock's continuing role is of critical significance as the group structures are modernised. Moreover, the City would do well to dwell on Weinstock's contribution to

Britain's place in global elec-trical businesses before mark-ing his departure so uncharitably.

In fact it is just as likely that the revival in GEC's share price may have as much to do with its emer-sence as the likely supplier of gence as the likely supplier of an advanced new missile, the British equivalent of the Tomahawk, to the United Arab Emirates, as to manage

be worth up to 25 billion to UK arms exporters — it will be one of the most important bian al Yamamah deal. If the hitches can be resolved, the new contract would cascade through the UK defence/electropics industry creating thousands of jobs among dozens of sub-contractors. It for GEC before Lord Welnstock ratchets down his role.

Knight errors

two-thirds of the assets of the building society sector to bolt, the Government is finally showing some signs of becoming serious about preserving what is left of Britain's mutual lenders. It is a pity, however, that it has taken the Treasury so long to produce a draft bill and that the most substantive suggestions are being put out for discussion by Treasury minister Angela Knight now, rather than included in the draft bill. The most important of Ms Knight's ideas is that societies that declare they are to merge will have the opportunity to rates. And to look for be ring-fenced from takeover early election dates.

#AVING allowed some

for 12 months after the an-nouncement. Had this protec-tion been in place when the National & Provincial first ex-plored a merger with Nationwide or Alliance & Leicester, it might have been possible to freeze out the Abbey National, which jumped into the race carrying sackfuls of cash

bribes to members. However, the Treasury has still chosen to ignore the heavy lobbying from the building societies for a firmer two-year rule, under which the only people to qualify for cash payouts would be those who have held accounts for two years prior to the end of the financial year. Instead, it proposes "possible" action to prevent excessive speculation, another feeble response to a financial sector endan-

gered by precisely that.

For the consumer, the new bill would also contain a number of useful protections. Most significantly, all those with building society accounts would qualify as members, not just certain types of accounts. This caused great frustration for disqualified account holders in the the Lioyds takeover of the Chaltenhanı & Gloucester and the Halifax/Leeds merger.

Finally, the Government appears ready to halt the conversion juggernaut: but its response has been pathetically slow and inadequate.

Taxing timetable

T the time, last year's Budget was seen as a bit of a damp squib, particularly by Conservative MPs fearful of losing their seets. The feeling at Westminster was that 23 billion of tax cuts T the time, last year's were merely an appetiser for the real pre-election givesway in November 1998. Several months down the

road, the fiscal arithmetic is Tomahawk, to the United Arab Emirates, as to management changes.

If the GEC missile deal goes ahead — it could eventually billion and the final month of the financial year always sees a splurge of spending by Gov-ernment departments. It is not a question of whether the PSBR will exceed Mr Clarke's £29 billion budget forecast itself revised up from the £23.5 billion estimated last summer — but by how much.

The consensus view in the City last night was that the full-year figure for 1995-6 will be around £32 billion reflecting stunted tax Nor is the outlook for the

oming year that much rosier. The economy is still only growing sluggishly and if past political cycles are anything to go by the Government's rigorous control of public spending will be relaxed in the run-up to polling day. The Ernst and Young ITEM

forecasting club, which uses a copy of the Treasury's eco-nomic model, believes that the PSBR will show scant imnancial year, leaving Mr Clarke little room for substantial tax cuts. If that is the case, the Chancellor may be inclined to be more aggres-sive in reducing interest

Rentokil attack Sterling spared from ERM re-entry on BET chiefs' incentives deal

Patrick Doneyan

ENTOKIL is stepping up the pressure in its battle for BET by asking the Takeover Panel to arbitrate on whether the terms of share incentive packages offered to the bid target's top management conform to City rules on mergers and acquisitions.

Rentokil, the company with interests from pest control to industrial services, is understood to be asking for a panel judgment because of difficul-ties working out how much compensation BET directors would be entitled to if the takeover offer succeeds.

Rentokil thinks the BET incentives may infringe Rule 25 of the City "Blue Book" on takeovers, which requires disclosure of performancerelated packages The appeal for arbitration

comes in the wake of claims that BET's chief executive, John Clark, could pick up £5 million if the Rentokil bid goes through. Rentokil is understood to have three worries. First, the

bidder wants clarification about the "financial targets" that would entitle Mr Clark to a bonus of up to 60 per cent of

about the operation of a relative to the rest of the inrestricted award share dustry.

scheme and a medium term share incentive scheme. The latter entitles 44 BET executives to incentives worth a total of 29,622,257. According to BET's defence document, senior staff would still pick up incentive packages if the company is taken over. Rentokil wants clarification

on the nature of an "indexrelated performance target" on which the share deals are apparently based. BET last night insisted that

all details of its top manage-ment incentive packages had been made public. But Rento-kil chairman's, Clive Thompson, is understood to be deter mined to reduce payouts to departing BET management to the lowest possible figure.

• More than 100 top directors and senior staff at British Petroleum stand to pick up almost £33 million of free shares the company disclosed yesterday in its annual report. The deal represents the first payout in BP's rolling scheme to reward top staff for the peformance of the company over the previous

tīve vears. Recipients are barred from cashing in the shares until the turn of the century, and the size of the payout falls well short of the maximum 263 million allocation, because BP failed to meet in full it also wants full details the tight performance targets

TIE pound will not have to rejoin the European

exchange rate mechanism as a prior condition for taking part in the move to a single currency in 1999. Although the Maastricht treaty still speaks of two years' membership of the ERM as a precondition for joining the single currency, EU governments have, in effect, waived this not only for Britain but also for Finland and Sweden, which want to take part in monetary union. However, even if Britain has been dropped as a condides not join, pressure on tion for admittance to the London to formalise sterling's single currency in 1999. sis in 1993," a senior commission of participating in monetary union in 1999.

John Palmor in Brussels

links with the ERM after 1898 | Asked about this, the commis- | sion official pointed out yes-will increase as a result of a | sion said: "It is a matter for | terday. "But if the pound can study being finalised by EU

neeting of EU finance ministers in Verona next month. says that even those countries which remain outside the EU monetary committee con-single-currency bloc in 1999 firm that formal ERM memshould be required to target

their exchange rates more as a condition, although have closely on the Euro.

sion said: "It is a matter for [EU] heads of government to finance ministry and central interpret the treaty's require-The report, which will be early in 1998 to make the judg-presented to an informal ment about who qualifies and who does not." But senior sources within

the commission and the key bership is no longer regarded For legal reasons the European Commission is reluctant to acknowledge formally that prior membership of the ERM bound by the looser, 15 per has been dropped as a condition for admittance to the agreed after the currency cri-

Tory Eurosceptics, the Chan-cellor of the Exchequer, Kenneth Clarke, has insisted that sterling does not have to rejoin the ERM membership for the UK to qualify to join

the single currency.

If the ERM condition did apply, the British governm would have to join the mecha nism this month to keep open

Sega to open £45m 'virtual reality' theme park in London Planet, Ghost Hunt, Mad Computer technology appear to each other to be

Technology Editor

SEGAWORLD, a £45 million theme park offering a cross between traditional rides and glorified computer games, will open in Angust near Piccadilly Circus in London.

Sega, the Japanese video game company, is using electronics to compress the park into a 110,000 sq ft site. Its aim is to let visitors experience the thrills of the theme park ride and the interactive special effects of computer games while seated in a building at the heart of the capital. There will be six main

rides - Reast in Darkness.

electronic version of an American fairground. All will be packed into part of the Trocadero, the former 19th-century music and dance hall now converted into a shopping and entertainment complex.

Sega said visitors would experience rides in which the environment was created by computer-generated images. Customers wearing virtual-reality headsets or watching screens will have the impression that they are, for example, moving underwa-ter, creeping through haunted houses, or crash-Space Mission. Aqua ing around on dodgems.

Bazooka, and AS1-Simula-tor — with attractions such example, for fellow travellers on the Space Mission to



wearing space suits, ever be dressed in jeans.

James Bidwell, head of

marketing for Sega Amuse-

ments Europe, expects to attract about 1.75 million people a year, each paying an entry fee of between £10 and £15, with lower rates for children and groups. Segaworld will take up about a fifth of the Trocadero site. Sega chose the site for its first electronic theme park outside Japan because of its central loca-

tion and proximity to Piccadilly Circus.
"Office workers may even opt for an evening at Segaworld rather than go to the pub after work." Mr Bidwell said optimistically.

Pearson expansion fails to feed through into profits

Lisa Buckingham

EARSON, whose interests range from the Financial Times and Penguin Books to Madame Tussaud's and Thames TV. yesterday reported a 23 per cent rise in profits to £365 million — fig-ures flattered by a windfall of £131 million from the sale of its stake in satellite broadcaster BSkyB.

Despite a headline profits record and a 10 per cent increase in the dividend to 16.5p a share, many of Pearson's key businesses suffered sub-stantial set-backs.

Operating profits — before one-off items - dropped by 5 per cent to £260 million. following a poorer performance from a majority of the eroup's divisions.

full year's contribution from the Spanish group Recoletas. The education operation — largely Addison Wesely suffered a "bruising" 38 per cent fall to £31.8 million. Despite a tripling of televi-

sion profits from Thames TV and Grundy, the entertainments division managed to end the day 14 per cent down at £110.9 million. Mindscape the bi-tech CD-ROM-based group for which Pearson paid nore than £300 million, took a bath and turned in losses of £7 million. Pearson retains a large

stake in the merchant bank Lazards, which contributed nearly £40 million of profits thanks to the takeover boom on both sides of the Atlantic. The figures added to doubts about Pearson's talent for ac-Although profits from the information division rose by 24 per cent to £105.3 million, lion on takeovers last year.

TOURIST RATES - BANK SELLS

France 7.45 Germany 2,1900 Greece 383.00 Hong Kong 11.61 India 52.31 Cyprus 0.70 Denmark 8.46

Netherlands 2.4650 New Zoaland 2.20 Portugal 227.00 Saudi Arabia 5,69

Spain 183.50 Sweden 10.17 Switzerland 1.7500

Predators are

warned off

society bids

Jill Papworth on mutuals' defence

building

Pauline **Springett** and Paul Murphy on the Lucas chief named to succeed Weinstock



Still around . . . outgoing GEC managing director Lord Weinstock is likely to the company he created

White smoke rises at GEC

George Simpson, chief executive of Lucas Industries, would succeed Lord Weinstock as managing

In a typically brief state-ment, GEC said Mr Simpson would join the company as soon as he was free. Lord Weinstock, head of GEC for 33 years, would then retire from the board to take up an honorary position as "chairman emeritus" so he could provide "the benefit of his long experience and profound knowledge of the company". The handover is likely to be in the

It was unclear last night how active a role Lord Wein-stock would maintain in the business he created. But the City believed he would continue to have a big influence, and the shares closed 5p down

As one fund manager said: "This is Weinstock's family business. He's going to over-see it to make sure the new guy doesn't cock it up."

The contismation of Mr 1968 — Merger with English Simpson's appointment followed last week's announcement by Lucas that its chief

renewing his contract. Two years ago, aged 70, Lord Weinstock pledged to step down after serving another couple of years. That triggered a Machiavellian power struggle over the succession, with Lord Weinstock apparently keen for his son Simon, a board director, to succeed him. However, he relinquished this hope once it | 1994 — Buys Ferranti's defence became clear that the City business

was against it. Three internal board members - finance director David one stage, but it has been clear for several months that GEC would have to opt for an

external candidate. Mr Lucas, a Scottish accountant by training, joined Lucas two years ago from British Aerospace. He is respected in the City for nego-tiating the sale of the car manufacturer Rover to Ger-many's BMW at a good price. At Lucas, which produces motor components and serospace engineering. Mr Simpson is regarded as having a good grip of the business and of having made a promising

Chronology

1949 — Arnold Weinstock joins family electronics firm, Radio & Allied Industries 1961 — Company acquired by General Electric Company 1963 - Weinstock becomes managing director

1967 — GEC merces with Associated Electric Industries 1985 - Buys Yarrow

1988 — Merges telecoms Interests with Pleasey in GPT 1989 - Sets up joint ventures with French power system thom and GE of th US, Joint takeover of Plassay with Siemens approved by 1993 — Abandons talks to buy Thorn-EMI defence interests; abortive merger talks with BAs

1995 — Acquires VSEL Trident submarine yard

EC ended months of intense speculation yesterday by Cronin — were also tipped at GEC comes before the task at

Lucas is completed.

Lucas, which is due to report its half-year results today, is expected to find a new chief executive by the time it reports its full-year results in early October.

City analysts reacted cau-tiously to the appointment. "Simpson is well respected, but, yes, we have noted Lord Weinstock's continuing role." said one specialist

"The market is anathetic. It has been expected for a long time and it will also be a good while before we see any effect."
Industry sources said that

GEC would now embark on a fresh succession search — this time for a replacement for the chairman, Lord Prior. Meanwhile, GEC moved to distance itself from yesterday's report in this news-paper that it was on the brink

of securing a multi-billion-pound contract to supply a missile system to the United Arah Emirates.

"We are not saying anything about what we are in the process of selling. We do

Howaver, sources at the defence and engineering, at-fence contractor indicated tracted sharp criticism that any delay in securing a from City analysts who be-large order from the UAE lieved the cash should have could be blamed on slowness in forging a planned military treaty between Britain and

the Gulf state.

Defence industry observers speculated that any arma-ments package sold to the UAE would include a long-expected order for Tornado fighter aircraft from British Aerospace as well as the GEC

Simpson's hand on cheque book

Outlook

HE succession struggle at GEC is over. Lord Weinstock, after 33 years at the helm of Britain's biggest defence con-tractor, will be succeeded by George Simpson of

Despite GEC's culture of secrecy, the announcement was well flagged. It was clear last weekend that Mr Simpson was heading for GRC, leaving the question of what the appointment would mean for the company - and Lord Wein-stock's own continuing Topping the list of tasks

for the new managing di-rector will be deciding "We are not saying anything about what we are in the process of selling. We do not say anything until it is actually sold. We are a conservative company." a small electrical business into a world leader in de-

The critics are hoping Mr Simpson will be their man. As one fund manager with a sizeable holding of GEC stock said yesterday: don't want to own a bank with GEC shares. If I did I'd buy bank shares." The mountain of money

cannot simply be spent. One analyst said: "There's not much point in spending the cash for the sake of it. You've got to spend it wisely. It's jolly difficult to spend it in the markets in which GEC operates." Lord Weinstock's defenders say that GEC's business by its very nature requires

the company to maintain a

because of the size of gov-ernment contracts and the amounts of company funds put at risk. If Mr Simpson does de-cide to write a few cheques, one option could be to try to nail down a merger with arch rival British Aero-space. Lord Weinstock has unsuccessfully pursued

dustry would operate more efficiently by having one prime contractor.
Some analysts believe the new boss is almost certain to take another tilt at this

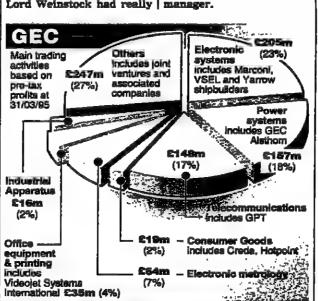
this for several years, arguing that the UK defence in-

elusive prize. Other observers say BAe may be off the agenda. "If Lord Weinstock had really

wanted BAe, he would have got it," said one analyst.
Of more immediate interest will be Mr Simpson's joint venture strategy. GEC already has ventures with Siemens of Germany, Alsthom of France and General Electric of the US. The French and US deals The French and US deals work well but the Siemens link is more problematic. Siemens and GEC joined forces in the late 1980s to buy Plessey. The upshot has been that GEC's independent role in the Europendent role in the Eur pean telcommunications market is severely restricted.

Mr Simpson, an astute deal-maker, is likely to be keen on fresh joint ven-tures. That could hasten the restructuring of the company into a fistful of joint venture businesses with foreign partners and, in turn, to demerger. The City is hoping for a

quickening of the pulse at GEC. "It needs to be ener-gised. It's become far too staid and unimaginative in its policies," said one fund



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Money-back Tobacco shares promotion slump after for Argos shareholders Morris accused

an King

ARGOS, the aggressively-run stores firm, yesterday handed half its £200 million cash pile back to sharehold ers. Argos, which has ridden out the recession more easily than most of its high-street rivals, said it was paying a 42p-a share special dividend. Announcing a 24 per cen

surge in full-year pre-tax prof-its, to £124.4 million, the chief executive, Mike Smith, said the pay-out would not blunt the company's ability to make acquisitions. Mr Smith, who refused to discuss a possible bid for the H Samuel and Ernest Jones

stores, said that it would be hard to keep up the company's momentum of growth. Argos is pressing ahead with initiatives including a possible expansion of Call & Collect, its new small-scale store, which allows custom-

ers to order products for next-day collection. The concept will take Argos to areas where a larger shop would not be viable, with around 600 such stores envisaged if nicotine first by targeting the recent pilots prove successful. Argos is set to continue expansion in the Republic of Ire-land, where it already has

open a trial store in Holland. Among other developments due are a refurbishment of stores, an increase in the number of lines offered to more than 8,100 by 1998, and | itself informed of any changes an extension of the home de-livery service. that might occur in these products," Uydess testified. that the company might be forced to follow Liggett's lead.

Philip Morris, like the rest of the \$45 billion (£29 billion) Mark Tran in New York ■OBACCO shares took a

further pounding yes-terday as one of Philip Morris's former leading sci-entists alleged that the company controlled levels of nicotine in cigarettes in the full knowledge that it was addictive.
The allegations, contained

in a 24-page sworn affidavit, came from Ian Uydess, an associate senior scientist who left Philip Morris in 1989 after 11 years because of his grow ing concern over the health effects of smoking. Mr Uydess's sworn state-ment, which was made public

yesterday by the federal Food and Drug Administration, alleges that Philip Morris "routinely targeted and adjusted" nicotine levels in cigarettes, based on the "optimum range" preferred by smokers. He claimed that the company "manipulated" levels of tobacco leaf used in ciga-

pansion in the Republic of Ireland, where it already has three stores, and also plans to able" nicotine in the smoke. "Philip Morris routinely investigated the chemical, physical, material and mechanical characteristics of its competitors' products so as to keep

industry, denies any manipu-lation of nicotine in its products. In response to the leaked af-

Electronic metrology:

fidavit, Philip Morris said:
"The leaking of this document... which gave us less than an hour to initially respond, is typically of the antismoking industry's tactics to demonise the industry in the press. Historically, when documents are sensationalised in the press and find their way into the courtroom, juries have failed to find them to be evidence of wrongdoing." Shares in Philip Morri plunged \$61/4 to \$891/4 on the news, with other tobacco

shares also suffering. The allegations echo those of Jeffrey Wigand, former research head at Brown & Williamson, an American subsidiary of BAT Industries. Mr Uydess's statement came just a week after Liggett, the smallest of the five American tobacco companies, broke the industry's longstanding united front when i announced a tentative settlement of a huge federal class

action suit in New Orleans on behalf of every addicted smoker in the United States. BAT's top lawyer, Stuart Chalfen, met analysts and major shareholders in London yesterday to calm fears that the company might be

under Government proposals outlined yesterday. The idea of giving societies "quiet period" to consult

to prevent recently joined in-vesting members of a society

contained in a proposed adjunct to the Government's draft bill on the future of Treasury minister Angela Knight said building societies who wanted to retain mutual

status and merge with other societies felt constrained from announcing such plans for fear of attracting unwel-come predators. to redraft the two year rule Labour's City spokesman Alistair Darling warned of an Where a merger is in the best interests of members, societies should feel able to get on and pursue proposals,"
Mrs Knight said. "They
should not face potential unwelcome disruption from an

is being processed."

The idea will be subject to a three-month consultation

outside bid while the merger

bids by banks for up to a year

their members without counterbids taking place was

building societies announced

yesterday.

period.

Mrs Knight also proposed that where a society's mem-bers reject a takeover bid, the bidder should not be able to mount a repeat bid for a year.

Abbey National, which converted from a building society to a hank and was listed by the Stock Exchange in 1969. said the Government pro-posal to block hostile takeovers of building societies was the first step towards a fully-fledged takeover code needed by the mutually owned sector. But analysts questioned how far it would actually protect society mem

"If two building societies announced plans for a merger, how are members supposed to know if they're getting a good deal?" asked one analyst. "Under this rule they wouldn't be allowed to know if one of the banks was waiting in the wings with a better deal that they weren't allowed to bring to the table." Brian Davis, chief execu-tive of the Nationwide soci-ety, said the proposal was fine in theory but would not work. It would be difficult to legislate against quoted compa-

UILDING societies | nies declaring an informal inwith firm plans to terest in buying a society. There could be a temptation merge may be ring-fenced from hostile

for large societies to persuade smaller ones to merge with them purely to get a year's protection from predators.

Mr Davis said he preferred a strengthened two-year rule.

getting payouts in the form of shares if a society demutualises.
At present banks and other quoted predators are able to buy the votes of short-term investors." Mr Davis said. He joined the Building Soc: eties Association and others in calling on the Government

urgent need to get legislation on the statute book "The Government has taken far too long to publish

even a draft bill, which is unlikely to be introduced before the autumn." he said. "As the next parliamentary session will be cut short by the general election, it is posson to the statute book before 1998. That means continued

uncertainty, with building societies fighting in a difficult market with one hand tied behind their back. "The Government must ac: now to preserve building soci eties in the future."

Bill will...

to broaden activities so long m principal purpose remains provision of

weded readaly by severe Underline mutual character by making societies more including say in whether

converts to a pic Extend voting rights to virtually all savers

voling rights as savers Allow continental bank to buy societies Societies Ombudsman and widen powers of Building

News in brief

Alliance to quit estate agencies

ALLIANCE & Leicester, Britain's fourth biggest building society, is to sell or close its 70 estate agency branches. It has set aside £40 million to cover losses if the whole division, employing 462 people, fails to find a buyer.

The society, due to convert to a publicly listed bank next year anyoneds 15 per cent impages in any tent weekling.

year, announced a 15 per cent increase in pre-tax profits to £288 million in 1995. Losses on bad and doubtful debt were reduced to £3 million from £29 million. Gross mortgage advances were up 12 per cent to £2.9 billion — Jill Papworth.

Juppe's golden share

ALAIN JUPPE, the French premier, said the state will retain majority ownership France Telecom as it prepares to deregulation of the telecoms market. To head off strikes at the telecoms market. monopoly, employees will keep their civil service status after the partial privatisation. EU rules require France to end the monopoly by 1998. Mr Juppé said a new law would guarantee a continued universal public service. — AP

Electric inquiry extends

THE Trade Secretary, Ian Lang, extended the Monopolies and Mergers Commission inquiry into proposed bids by PowerGen and National Power for two regional electricity companies. Midlands and Southern, by three weeks.—Reuter

Japan's surplus falls

JAPAN'S trade surplus fell last month, suggesting its economy may be growing at last. The total surplus fell by almost 46 per cent to 24 billion in February; that with the US by 30 per cent to 83.4 billion. Imports rose by 17 per cent, for the 16th month in a row, to \$27.9 billion, while exports fell by 3.3 per cent to \$34.1 billion, the first monthly fall for three years. - Kevin Rafferty in Tokyo

Bunzi warns on growth

BUNZL pushed profits up 33 per cent to £106.2 million in 1995, but said weaker economic growth was likely to hit its markets.

Anthony Habgood, chief executive of the paper and plastic packaging group, said paper prices were falling as customers cut stocks. — Tony May

Glynwed defies slowdown

HIGHER exports and new products helped Glynwed Interna-tional raise 1995 profits by 25 per cent to 284.2 million. Gareth Davies, chairman of the metals and plastic products group, said the result was achieved despite the UK's slower recovery in the second half, and included a four-month contribution from Vitaulic, bought in August, of £4.6 million. - Tony May

Future Finance

Money Guardian's Future Finance pull-out, missing on Saturday in some parts of the country, will be published in those areas on

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Non-vintage look about the National

Ron Cox

O Grand National can be described as dull, but there is a definite lack of quality about the Martell-sponsored chase at Aintree on Sat-

Rough Quest, the Gold Cup second, has already been ruled out and doubts are growing about the participa-tion of top-weight Jodami and last year's winner Royal

Peter Beaumont, trainer of Jodami, has had a virus in his stable for the past month and yesterday warned he is considering re-routing the 11-year-old to Fairyhouse for the Jameson Irish Grand National on April 8. "It's not definite, but with

the National only a week on Saturday we're just running out of time. The entries for the Irish National close tomorrow and we'll put him in. It's more than likely he'll run there," said Beaumont.

"lodami is bright, but we can't get the necessary amount of work into him

without rushing him."
lodami has not run since being pulled up behind Lo Stregone in the Greenalls Grand National Trial at Haydock last month, his jockey Mark Dwyer reporting him to have choked for much of the

final circuit. Royal Athlete, who sprang year ago, is also coming off second best in his race against the clock, according

hum and are running short of gar's trainer Bill Mott after time" he said. "It is odds the 21-hour journey, during against him running, but we which the American Horse Of will make a decision later in the week. He has always been duficult to train, so we don't

top the handicap at Aintree, resulting in a rise in the weights of 9lb, which would be good news for the support-

ers of Lo Stregone, who has 9st 3lb in the long handicap. Ladbrokes yesterday shortened Lo Stregone from 9-1 to 7-1 favourite. Tom Tate's 10year-old is 61 with Hill's, who then go 8-1 Young Hustler. Sharp Prospect heads the

sponsor's betting at 7-1 for the William Hill Lincoln Handicap at Doncaster on Saturday. Gambled-on winner of the consolation Spring Mile at

"He has got his summer coat. It could be that he is a spring horse as he did win the consolation race very easily last season," said the Epsom

Sharp Prospect will have his winding-up gallop under big-race jockey Richard Quinn over six furlongs this

morning.
Ladbrokes clipped the Lincoln favourite from 8-1 to 6's and Delta Soleil was a springer from 16-1 to 9-1. "He since winning on his debut last season and has been working very well this week," said Simon Double, spokes-man for the Peter Harris

stable Preparations for the \$4 mil-Royal Athlete, who sprang a 40-1 surprise when giving alenny Pitman her second Grand National success a year ago, is also coming a mon buosi World Cup moved up a gear yesterday with the arrival of Cigar, hot favourite for tomorrow week's race, and a pleasing work out her lion Dubai World Cup moved for tomorrow week's race, and a pleasing work-out by Geoff Wragg's Pentire under floodlights at the Nad Al Sheba track.

to Mrs Pitman's son and assistant Mark.
"We have been held up with Tim Jones, assistant to Ci-The Year had his faithful pony Snowball at his side.

Pentire, partnered by in: ke plans for him."

It is looking increasingly in his work with Young likely that Young Hustler will Buster.



Look for the Eros inside of you . . . Perry poses in Piccadilly Circus

Old Fridge promises fresh goods

Robert Pryce

ILLIAM PERRY showed off his new shirt yester-day. It is an XXXL in fetching blue,

white and gold, a hot-air balloon with "Fridge 95" on the back.

ate some hot air during the years left coming World League sea wanted to son. They know he can help different. them sell some tickets, and they hope he can still bounce a few offensive line-the London Monarchs." men around.

Perry was certainly talk-The London Monarchs ing a good game yesterday, down in the Chicago Bears' may have recruited last on the London stop of his 1986 Super Bowl win over year's man — 350lb of over-three-day trip round the the New England Patriots,

Perry's celebrity peaked when he scored a touch-

blown tackle a decade past the peak of his fame — but to start," he said. "I've still sprightly enough to figure to start," he said. "I've still sprightly enough to figure to start," he said. "I've still sprightly enough to figure in the Monarchs' offence, years left in me and I wanted to do something to something the ball," he said. "I'm definitely into carry-ing the condition of the ball," he said. "I'm definitely into carry-ing the ball," he said. "I'm defin whatever the coach wants

else - that's what I'm gonna do."

Ayr card with guide to rece

"I saw Gavin in training,"
said Perry. "He kicks very
well but we'll have to get
some pressure on him when
he's taking field goals. me to do — be it block, de-fensive tackle or whatever

"You've got to make players intimidated. You've got to go out there and pound Perry has apparently impressed at the World on them. I think that we're League training camp in going to have a smash-Georgia, where Gavin Has-

Rugby League

Sydney rebels sue for peace

STAR NAMES among the Murdoch rebels will play in the ARL season when it starts on Friday, in return for being allowed to take part in Super League in-ternational events such as the World Club Championships against British sides, under a compromise apparently being brokered in Sydney by Mau-

brokered in Sydney by Maurice Lindsay.

The 311 players who signed up with the News Limited chief's breakaway competition, which a Sydney court recently banned from starting in Australia until 2000, have also demanded the inclusion in this season's ARL competition. in this season's ARL competi-tion of two clubs created for Super League, Adelaide Rams and Hunter Mariners.

Lindsay, chief executive of Britain's RFL, explained yes-terday: "The 311 players are unable to speak to News Lim-ited or even Super League officials and have, therefore,

been asking for my advice.
"Everyone has agreed to put a plan forward to the ARL whereby the players' Super League status remains intact but, for the sake of the game, they play for their clubs in an ARL competition, under the management of the ARL.

"The proposal provides a reasonable deal for every-body. It would, in fact, be a small victory for all the par-ties concerned."

The courts have ruled that, although the eight Super League clubs must enter teams in the ARL competition, the rebel players — in-cluding many of the world's best — are not bound to participate. But yesterday lead-ing players announced they were prepared to "swallow their pride" and compete under the ARL banner if their

conditions were met.
The ARL chairman Ken Arthurson, who was "encour-aged" by the move, said the players' offer would be considered as quickly as possible

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2	06-0312	MEADOWSTRIM (10) W Reed 6-11-4 T Reed
2	832F44	CARRAN VALLEY (10) D Robertson 6-11-3 Burke
4	Ð	LUTHIAN COMMODORE (82) G Richards 6-11-3 A Debble
5		MASTER SANDY (12) B Macappart 9-15-)
	OP-2904	MJWAY (11) W Burnes 6-11-3 P Waggett
7	3345	BLOOMING SPRING (10) Mrs D Thompson 7-10-12
	2000000	MEADOWLECK (50) W Young 7-10-12 R Marphy (7)
	2282	\$8000ARA'S WAY (10) (8F) P License 6 5-10-12

Betäing: 3-1 Statter Sandy 9-2 Lothan Commodore, 5-1 Readowlere, 11-2 Shontes's Way, 6-1 Camain Valley, Bold Account.

1 F325-1 JUST FRANKUS (50) (C) Mrs M Reveloy 12-11-10 P News 2 P-11412 GENERAL COMMAND (18) (RF) G Richards 8-11-7 P Curbers 2 45-1125 STROMG APPROACH (89) (3) I Charlen 11-10-12 S Strong 4 33-30 POSITIVE ACTION (10) (MF) J Fig. 91-10-10 Thed 6 U12-F14 ROSTIC AND (14) (8) (RF) J Fig. Genal 3-10-1 Mrs Owyper

	form	
Clou	EL CULTUSE - JUST: FRANKCIE: Made all, queckoned clair 3 out, éapad flat, s d lâys 2m, GG). ESPAL COMBLANDs Close ap. led 3 out, ward flat, just caught, bin sh hid by	•
	D. Gd) ONG APPROACH: Chased leaders until weakened 5 out, leat of 6, bin 501 to So	dale life (Kelao Sm1t, Gd
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1	12100- WILLIAM TELL (2006) (D) M rismmond 5-71-13	
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10-1	ings 3-1 Sharkashka, 9-2 Mordio Skin, 5-1 Sidy Armaka, Royal Creyl, 9-1 Willia. High Ming. 20-7 Brief Reumios III GUNDE - WILLIAM TIELL Not seen out over burding since kips April when 7	
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SHA!	AL CREST's Last ran over hundles in November 1864 when tracked leaders, is y 18 from Violatine After (Lobertoix Zin, City IREASERS in Peljamed to form last limb when tracked insiders, lad approachin from Steath The Cash (Ayr Zin, Gd-Fm). DIE RABBAY Close up infor trackethed 3 cus, tast of 5, sto 54 to Kirplembosch i	ed upp lass, reides out to g 2 out, min on well, won
SHAL SHAL WAL	AL CREST's Lagr gap over hundles in November 1984 when tracked Headers, in y 180 tom Wester Aden (Schmeint Zin, Old PERAFERJA Pollumed to form last lime when tracked insiders, and approachin from Saler The Cash (Ayr Zin, GG-Pin). DE RAMAR Close up and/seakened 3 our, just of 5, pto 341 to Kirplenbosich ; 10 BUTE NOVICE CHASE San 47 CR, 664	ed upp lass, reiden out to g 2 out, min on well, with Carlette 2m1f, Gel).
SHALL SHALL	AL CREST: Last ran core hundles in November 1894 when tracked leaders, is y 19 from Wooder After (Schemick Zin, City) IRLAENGLAS Poljumed to form last later when tracked leaders, lad approaching from Salen The Cash (Ayr Zin, Go-Fin). DE RAMAR Close up what reaskaned 3 out, last of 8, bit 344 to Kinstenbasich (DE RAMAR Close up what reaskaned 3 out, last of 8, bit 344 to Kinstenbasich (BYS) 1 SOURA (19) 1 CD C Parker 7-13-0.	of applant, mides out to g 2 out, mn on well, won Carinto 2m II, Gd).
4.1	AL CREST: Last ran core hundles in November 1864 when tracked leaders, in y 18 from Wooder After (Catteriotic Zin, Cd) FRAENCIA Rejurned to form last time when tracked leaders, and approaching from Sasen The Cash Ray: Zin, GAFmi. DE RAMAR Close up which received 3 cut, rast of 5, cto 34 to Kinstenbesch i DE PLANE Close up which received 3 cut, rast of 5, cto 34 to Kinstenbesch i DE PLANE Close up which received 5 cut, rast of 5, cto 34 to Kinstenbesch i DE PLANE CLOSE CHASE and 40 CR, rast of 5. cto 34 to Kinstenbesch i DE PLANE CLOSE CHASE and 40 CR, rast of 5. cto 34 to Kinstenbesch i DE PLANE CLOSE CHASE and 40 CR, rast of 5. cto 34 to Kinstenbesch i DE PLANE CLOSE CLOSE CHASE CLOSE	od upp last, mides out to g 2 out, nin on well, won Caristic 2m II, Gd).
4.1 1 2 3 4 5 6 7	AL CREST: Last ran core hundles in November 1894 when tracked leaders, in y 19 from Western Atm. (Section 18.2). (19 from 18.2) when tracked leaders, and approaching thom Sales The Cash Ayr 2m. GaPfm). DE RAMAR Close up who week weekened 3 out, less of 8, toto 34 to Kinstenboschi (19 from 18.2). (19 from 18.2) when the Kinstenboschi	od upp last, mides out to g 2 out, nin on well, won Caristic 2m1f, Gd).
1 2 3 4 5 5 6 7 6 8	AL CREST: Last ran core hundles in November 1894 when tracked leaders, in y 19 from Yeacher Ahm, 150 periods Zin. (6) periods Zin. (7) periods	of upp last, mides out to g 2 out, nin on well, won Caristic 2mil, Gd). Biscrey A Bothlin T Reed A S Evelth Biscrey Biscre T Biscrey A S T Waggett Biscre
4.1 2 3 4.1 1 2 3 4 5 6 7	AL CREST; Lag rap nor? hurden in November 1894 when tracked leaders, in y 18 from Neutro Anni (Schemick Zn. Col) (IRABIRGA Reliamed to form last lime when tracked insiders, ind approachin from Steath The Cash (Ayr Zn. Col-Fm). DE RABBAR Close up and reakened 3 car, issued 5, san 34 to Kirplenbosch (IRABIRGA Close up and reakened 3 car, issued 5, san 34 to Kirplenbosch (IRABIRGA Close up and Reakened 3 car, issued 5, san 34 to Kirplenbosch (IRABIRGA CLOSE CHARLES CAR) (IRABIRGA CLOSE CHARLES CAR) (IRABIRGA CLOSE CHARLES CAR) (IRABIRGA CLOSE CAR) (IRABIRGA CA	of upp last, mides out to g 2 out, nin on well, won Caristic 2mil, Gd). Biscrey A Bothlin T Reed A S Evelth Biscrey Biscre T Biscrey A S T Waggett Biscre
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1 2 3 4 5 5 5 7 7 8 9 10 11 m Top	AL CREST; Lag rap nor hardes in November 1894 when tracked leaders, in y 18 from Neutron Admit Charmick Zn. (5) PKARIKKAR Pollumed to form last lime when tracked insiders, and exprescribe in Commission of the Cash (Ayr Zn. 65-Fm). DE RABBAR Close up and reastened 3 car, issued 5, san 34 to Kirplenbosch (4) BERTH ROYNCE CHARSE Sm 4f CR.564 EXTRI SOURCE (11) (C) C PAARY 7-12-5 EXTRI SOURCE (11) (C) C PAARY 7-12-5 EXTRI SOURCE (12) (C) C PAARY 7-12-5 EXTRI SOURCE (13) (C) C PAARY 7-12-5 EXTRI SOURCE (14) (C) (C) C PAARY 7-12-5 EXTRI SOURCE (14) (C) M Bernes C-11-2 D-05010 REVE DE VALSE (15) being Soon 6-11-2 F-2502 WHETE DABONES (15) Licench Passed 6-11-2 F-2504 WHETE SABROWES (15) Licench P	el upp last, mides out to g 2 cut, nan on well, won Carinte 2mil, Gd). B Secrey A Bolden T Reed A S Swith B Dayer P Mayer P Mayer P Mayer P Mayer P Mayer P Carbotty P Carbotty
Win E SHALL THE WALL TO SHALL THE SH	AL CREST; Last ran core harden in November 1884 when tracked leaders, in y 18 from Wester Admit Charmick Zn. (2) MIXABIRS, Rejurned to form last larse when tracked insiders, and expreaching from Steam The Cash (Ayr Zm. Gd-Fm). DE RABBAR Close up in his weakened 3 out, rest of 5, six 34 to Kirptenbosch i EXPIT SOLEA (11) (C) C Parker 7-12-0 SUPE ROYNCE CHASE the 4f Ca.64 SZPIT SOLEA (11) (C) C Parker 7-12-0 SUPE-SI ANOTHERS MEADOW (117) J Dross 3-11-2 214-292 DOESTOR RABBALL (82) J Wade 8-11-2 214-292 DESSE MARSHALL (82) J Wade 8-11-2 215-92 DESSE MARSHALL (82) J Wade 8-11-2 216-92 PERSEL KING (110) LECTOR (110) MIX M Reveloy 7-11-2 3-4522 MOTABLE EXCEPTION (24) MIX M Reveloy 7-11-2 3-4522 PERSEL KING (110) LECTOR (110) MIX M PROVING 7-10-11-2 3-5522 PERSEL KING (110) LECTOR (110) MIX M PROVING 7-10-11-2 3-5520 PERSEL KING (110) LECTOR PERSEL (110) ENGINE PERSEL (110) ENGINE (110) LECTOR PERSEL (110) ENGINE (of upp last, raides out to g 2 out, nan on well, won Carinte 2mil, Gd). Biscrey A Scholm T Reed A S Smith M Dayer P Moyer P Mayer Harding F Carbotty Carbotty Harding F Carbotty Harding Harding F Carbotty Harding H
Win E SHALL I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I	AL CREST; Last ran core harden in November 1894 when tracked leaders, in y 18 from Wester Adm (15 between X Pr.). Capturel X Pr. (2) P. (2) P. (2) P. (2) P. (2) P. (3) P. (3) P. (4) P. (4) P. (4) P. (4) P. (4) P. (4) P. (5) P. (4) P. (5) P. (6) P.	d upp last, raides out to g 2 out, ran on well, won Carriete 2mil, Gd). Beerry A Bobbs T Reed A S 2with B Dayer P Moreo B Beetry Breath B Reed B Ree

5¢0 1	NEE MO	TTESS, Useful ex-Franch hurdlericheser, wan over lances at Auleyil in June (20m, 5%).
.40) GIGH	A STANDARD OPEN MY FLAT RACE 2= \$7,250
1		ARDARROCK PRINCE (24) Mrs M Rangley 5-11-4
2	2	CRACHABUCY (8) # Reed 6-17-4 T Reed
3		HUSHABAS S Kemenell 5-11-4 B Parriet (7)
4		LAST TRY B Routeell 5-11-4
-		LORD PODGSIC P Monterin 5-11-4
-		PHAR BOHO L Lungo 5-11-4
Ť		RED WARREOR (34) M Hammand 5-11-4
ė.	•	MOADWAY JOKER M Barnes 5-11-4
	31	ELA MATA (8) Mrs A Swinbank 4-11-3
0	-	CULLICOUNTRY L Longo 5-10-13
1	62	ATAVISTIC (10) P Fisher 4-10-10
2	- 4	SHARIAKANIDI (17) D E10y 4-10-10 B Revier (3)
4	25	SWYAFORD PRIDE (20) (RF) J Bottomiey 4-10-10
	-	THE ANIMAL MISS M MINGEN 4-10-10
	15	BONNY RGC (8) L Large 4-10-5
6	1000	MARKET ACRES
		MOREFLASH (11) A Crow 4-10-5 A Manners (7)

 Blinkered today for the first time: AYR 2.10 Miss Lamplight. UTTOXETER: 2.50 General Jimbo; 4.50 Andrath; 5.20 Master Pallieter. FONTWELL 3.30 Chinaman (visor).

Results

LINGFIELD

2.10 (2hm 110yde Hdie) 1, YARROCK, D

Byrne (3-1); 2, Belleverhidden (2-1); 3, Belleverhidden (2-1); 2, PER Tingree (6-5 lov); 3, Tree-vice (100-30); 2, Capathan Chanas (2-1); 2, Belleverhidden (2-1); 2, Belleverhidden (2-1); 2, Belleverhidden (2-1); 2, Belleverhidden (2-1); 3, Belleverhidden (2-1); 2, Bellev LINGFIELD

diel (M Puper Tote: \$7 30; \$1.20; \$1.50; Duel | F. £6 30; CSF: \$13 06 | GUADPOT: \$127 20 | PLACEPOT: \$127.50;

| copy (33-1), 2-1 lav Donjuan Collonges, 17
| can. 5, 14, (G Richards) Tote: 05.20, 02.50, (7.20, 05.70, 0safe; 07.30, 05.70, 0



Fontwell runners and riders

2,30 How's It Coin

3.30 CHINAMAN (nep) 4.00 Hollows Term (nh)

HENCEY WOOD (164) (C) (BF) PHALE 11-T-6

THE PRIMITY (20) F-1078 3-11-T-6

THE PRIMITY (20) F-1078 3-11-T-6

THE PRIMITY (20) F-1078 3-11-T-6

THE ROSE OF IT (20) OF THE STATE 1-T-6

THE ROSE OF IT (20) OF THE STATE 1-T-7

THE PRIMITY (20) THE THE STATE 1-T-7

THE STATE Setting for the A Eart 4-1 rectain Subdise, 3-5 nearly Wood, 5-1 Federal (5-4 Fiche, 15-4 Quina Acry 5 (12-1 April 2)

*** Committee Control of the Control

W Hatesphrops
D Welsh (3)
A P McGoy
H Historia
R Firenal
J H Karamagh

4 274-22 NO TRUSKY (11) D Gressyl 7-11-2
5 35516 FRESS (16)602 (19) Grossyl 7-11-2
6 44472 DAWN FLIGHT (60) J Jerkey 7-15-11
7 5751 BARRING (10) GR (10) GR (10) GR (10)
8 9076 WINTERS GRANGE (12) 7 Keyes 5-10-2
8 175 4-4 CHINARDER (14) GR J J Jahres 7-75-1
10 63-2167 TEL ETHOR (12) 1942 C Caree 9-10-6 Buttings 4-1 Frest Chicas, 5-1 his Copylance, 6-1 flavor Flight, Danny Koty, 3-1 Cheannan, 8-1 flavor Flight, Factionner Star nt) 2m 2f E1.548. _P Soutt (7) + _A Charles_les OU MANUSCRY REGGE (74) John F. Upsen 4-16-8 TOP POINT TIPE: Plying Fiddler S, Morely Westler ?, Mr Ph

Gascoigne needs twin controls

Patrick Glenn on Terry Venables's message to his wayward midfielder

AUL GASCOIGNE still needs, at 28, to learn to control him-self temperamentally and curb his tendency towards over-exertion if he is to make the greatest contribu-tion for his country in the European Championship fin-

Red & yellow

Gascoigne's disciplinary record since joining Rangers Sept 23 v Hibernian: booked

Sept 30 v Celtic: booked (foul). Oct 21 v Hearts: booked

Oct 24 v Aberdeen: booked Nov 8 v Kilmamock: booked

Nov 19 v Celtic: booked (foul). Dec 30 v Hibernian: booked (waving yellow card at ref). lan 3 v Celtic: booked (foul). Feb 3 v Partick: booked (leaving

field to celebrate goal).

Feb 10 v Motherwell: booked (gesture after winning Fab 25 v Aberdeen: booked

(gesture after winning Mar 17 v Celtic; booked (foul).

Champions League Sept 13 v Steaua Bucharest booked (foul). booked (foul); booked (dis-

That is the considered ver-dict of Terry Venables who, while almost certain to name the midfielder tomorrow in his England squad to face Bulgaria next week, was reminded of Gascoigne's flawed talent in the Old Firm derby on Sunday.
On the morning after

watching Gascoigne perform patchily for Rangers in the 1-1 draw against Celtic — where the midfielder was noticeably exhausted well be-fore the end — England's coach spoke at length in Glasgow of the qualities that make the player an irresistible tar-get for both idolatry and

With somebody like him, it really does all come down to control." said Venables. "It's the lack of it in his behaviour that gets him into bother with referees and his constant chasing of the ball that tires him out before the end of a match.

"From what I'm told, seems probable that half of the bookings he's had have been deserved and the others haven't. We can't control what the referee does but we can control what Gascoigne does. He has to be made

aware of that. "You either go with him or you don't, and he gives you too much to leave him out. That is, unless his behaviour deteriorates to the point where it becomes damaging. Then you have to make a cold decision on that." Gascoigne on Sunday

received his 14th booking, for a heavy challenge on Celtic's striker Andreas Thom, this season. It was his fifth succesision games and he is only five points away from a third



Goal delight . . . but disciplinary despair has dogged much of Paul Gascolgne's first season back in British football

July has not been sent off in Scotland. His only red card following two bookings — came in Germany against Borussia Dortmund in the Champions League.

And Gascoigne must learn to pace his game better. "I think his fitness would be OK for 90 minutes if he curbed his instinct to chase the ball," said Venables.
"It's back to the control

front the next. It's a long way back and it takes it out of a

"It's like driving a fast car

You can get to a speed where it becomes a little dangerous and you have to drop back down towards the limit for your own safety.
"You also have to remem-

ber what he's been through in recent years. The freshness at the start of the season went,

scored some goals for Rangers pre-season and then reality

"He had to come back through a second phase and now he's done that. He's got his strength back and his strutting. If he's fit and he's there, he'll help make thing better for us. If he's not, I still have to win games. We want to win games before man-of-Venables, looking forward

man signed by Rangers for Celtic, deep in midfield one weight. We saw that in the to the confrontation with £4.3 million from Lazio last moment and then away up Umbro Tournament. He Scotland in the European Scotland in the European Championship, would like this old rivalry to be a regular

> calendar again. Last played in 1989, the fixture will feature a majority of players with no experience of it. The novelty, as Venables pointed out, is unlikely to make it any less fraught in the Euro '96 game at Wembley in June. "It's a great match and I

feature of the British football

annually," said Venables.
"Most of the current players
won't know what it's like but do. It used to sit alongside the FA Cup final for us as one

of the great shows. "I remember playing at Hampden Park and going up by train. Some of us had arranged a car back to town and it didn't arrive. We had to walk, or mostly run, through the Gorbals on the way back to Central Station. We didn't open our mouths. I knew it

urges **Anfield** deal

lan Ross

IVERPOOL's refusal to offer their 30-somethings lucrative, long-term con tracts may cost them the services of Mark Wright during

Wright's current contract expires at the end of the season. Unless the defender signs a new deal before the transfer deadline a week on Thursday he will be entitled, as he has reached 32, to leave Anfield in July on a free transfer.

Wright, who is believed to be on the verge of winning an England recall against Bul-garia next week, is seeking a three-year deal, whereas Liverpool would like to see him agree a 12-month extension. Last month the 34-year-old

Welsh striker Ian Rush an nounced that he would leave Liverpool after he, too, had failed to convence his club term contract.
"Roy Evans says that he

will come back to me soon for new talks," Wright said. "I would like to have had this sorted out some time ago. I am trying my hardest to earn a new contract. Every game I play now is very important

Another player currently seeking reassurances about his future is the Leeds and Wales midflelder Gary Speed who is near the top of Ever

Niall Quinn may finally sever his ties with Manchester City before the transfer deadline if Sheffield United can raise £1 million. He has accepted that he will not fig-ure in Alan Ball's plans next season whether City are rele gated or not. Bryan Little, Aston Villa's

former England Under-21 in-ternational defender, is join-ing Bolton on a free transfer.

Uefa Cup quarter-final, second leg: Nottingham Forest v Bayern Munich

Clark prepared for latest war of nerves

Martin Thorpe

N ONE level the task facing Nottingham Forest tonight sounds temptingly easy: a 1-0 win will see them through to the

On the agenda are at least

ledge that Bayern, unlike any of the other sides Forest have met in this competition, are capable of turning the slightest defensive error into a goal. That would leave Forest

resolve that has got them this

which has most delighted me about us in Europe," says Clark. "But we know that just one slip will be punished." So sit back and expect another evening of Forest soak-ing up pressure and looking

nothing

much in evidence elsewhere:

18 players were ejected from the weekend's 15 games.

Four of them were dis-missed from the Slough Jets-

Manchester Storm relegation-

promotion contest, including three from the home side. The

three officials were subse-quently escorted from the rink by security staff when

angry home fans besieged their dressing-room after the game, which Manchester won

The condition of Brack-

nell's Brian Wilkie was im-

proving yesterday in Read-ing's Royal Berkshire

Hospital after he sustained a

neck injury when colliding with his team-mate Jason

Coles during the warm-up for Sunday's home match with Milton Keynes. The game, de-

layed for 30 minutes while Wilkie was treated on the ice,

vious seven foreign ties. And | high degree of balance and | Stuart Pearce now fully there is the sobering know | discipline we have shown | match fit, Clark's only selection problem is the suspen-sion of Scot Gemmill in midfield. But in the Wales international David Phillips he possesses a natural and experienced replacement. If Forest went into the first

will see them through to the semi-finals.

But Frank Clark goes into the most important match in almost three years as manager at the City Ground knowing that life in Europe is never that simple for Forest.

On the accorda are at least goal. That would leave Forest needing to score twice—
something they have managed only once in their attritional campaign.

So once again Clark's hardy have managed only once in their attritional campaign.

So once again Clark's hardy of Bryan Roy, one of the few left Munich feeling to score twice—
something they have managed on the break. The likely return after injury of Bryan Roy, one of the few left Munich feeling to score twice—
something they have managed only once in their attritional campaign.

So once again Clark's hardy of Bryan Roy, one of the few left Munich feeling to something out of the likely return after injury of Bryan Roy, one of the few left Munich feeling to something out of the pressure and looking to pounce on the break. The likely return after injury of Bryan Roy, one of the few left Munich feeling to something out of the pressure and looking to pounce on the break. The likely return after injury of Bryan Roy, one of the few left Munich feeling to pounce on the break. The likely return after injury of Bryan Roy, one of the few left Munich feeling to pounce on the break. The likely return after injury of Bryan Roy, one of the few left Munich feeling to pounce on the break. The likely return after injury of Bryan Roy, one of the few left Munich feeling to pounce on the break. The likely return after injury of Bryan Roy, one of the few left Munich feeling to pounce on the break. The likely return after injury of Bryan Roy, one of the few left Munich feeling to pounce on the break. The likely return after injury of Bryan Roy, one of the few left Munich feeling to pounce on the break. The likely return after injury of Bryan Roy, one of the club names in the world in the likely return after injury of Bryan Roy, one of the few left Munich feeling to pounce on the respect for one of the biggest club names in the world, they left Munich feeling that the German league leaders were

That is maybe tempting fate 90 minutes of the sort of far and try also to strike a nerve-jangling close shaves safe balance between attack- and near misses that have cating, in search of that crucial cooper, who missed the first the passion that will be in the only appointment he was egorised each of Forest's pre- goal, and defence. "It is the leg through suspension. With

est team and their fans tonight. "They are the millionaires of German football and sometimes, maybe, they don't fight as hard as they should," said the former Forest player Tony Woodcock. now coaching in Germany. With Zickler injured, Klins-

mann is almost certain to forage up front alone, leaving Forest to cope with the runners from wide and midfield. But Clark will have done his homework. In denying he had proached about | continuing

Brown firm on Ferguson

UNCAN FERGUSON, Dithe Everton striker, will be given the chance to resurrect his international career in Scot-land's Euro '96 warm-up match against Australia at Hampden Park tomorrow

Ferguson was one of 23 players named by the manager Craig Brown yester-day and was confirmed a starter, barring injury. His physical condition seems a for Spurs against Manchescontinuing concern, with frequent hints from Goo-dison Park that he has not recovered peak fitness. Ferguson's

be back alongside whoever we feel is appropriate." squad to cover possible de-

Gary McAllister and the defender Colin Calderwood. McAllister plays for Leeds in the Coca-Cola Cup final on Sunday and Calderwood ter United the same day "This pool is fairly close to the one we would expect

to take to England for the

against Australia has yet to be identified, although Brown has consistently touted Aberdeen's Scott Booth. "We are looking for a partnership." said Brown, "and Ferguson will she heart along whe was to be be be to be a looking for a partnership." said Brown, "and Ferguson will some more games after his some more games after his some more games after his

recent injury. I want to see Stewart McKimmie fit again and John Robertson of Hearts scoring a few fections by the captain goals. They would all be in

(National), Jess (Coverny) Meditates (Leeds) McCall, McCalet (both Rangers', T McKleday (Callet), W McKleday (Stathburn), McLaren (Rangers), McKleday (Machine, McLaren (Rangers), McKleday

Ice Hockey

Wasps first to Wembley

Vic Batchelder

HERE is consolation for Sir John Hall: though Newcastle United are not going to Wembley, the Durham Wasps are. With one weekend of play-off matches left, Durham became the first and so far only team to make certain of a place in the British Champi-

onship finals at Wembley Arena on March 30-31 with a

5-0 home win over the Newcastle Warriors on Sunday. Durham beat the Cardiff Devils 3-2 on Saturday in a far tougher contest. Rick Brefar tougher contest. Rick Brebant, in his first year as a player-coach, claimed the win over one of his former clubs as "a big victory and good as "a big vi as "a big victory and good booster". "When you keep a team like that down to two

We'll be going into those looking for the win in both. We want to finish top and hopefully go into the Wembley Play-off tensions were finals with an undefeated record.

Cardiff went on to lose 8-6 to the Humberside Hawks in Hull the following evening, a result that leaves the Welsh club with only an outside chance of reaching Wembley. The Hawks have a two-point advantage in second place in Group B and a game more to play. The Nottingham Panthers

have everything to play for in their final two Group A cause when winning 6-3 at the Hampshire rink on Sungoals in both games," he said. day thanks to Paul Adey's 'you've got to be happy."

> Sheffield United 15 As Sheffield Wed. 14 35 Southhampton

04 Stoke City

32 Sunderland

16 Wolves

18 Celtic

13 Rangers

29

01 Tottenham Hot.

Wimbledor

20

27

97

26

37

09

10

"You've got to be happy."

Brebant says there will be no easing off by his team in their last two play-off games.
"We can't get complacent."

Interick.

Both sides have five points and games against Sheffield and Fife to come but the Panthers play the group leaders was won 8-2 by the visitors.

Basketball

League stirs strike threat

ENGLISH players are threatening to strike in response to the Budweiser League's decision to scrap its restrictions on foreign players, writes Robert Price.

The league, concerned that the Bosman ruling would see many of its better players attracted to richer leagues within the European Union, announced yesterday that its two-foreigners-per-club rule would be scrapped at the end of the season and that its salary cap would be increased 35 per cent to about £135,000.

that the league failed to in-clude it in discussions about

Sport in brief

Chess

result. He can achieve it with good performances in the league's final weekends at Newcastle in April and Bolton in May.

Athletics

Wang Junxia, China's world-record holder in the women's 3,000 and 10,000 metres, has rescinded a decision to retire and is training in secret for the Atlanta Olympics, accord-ing to the official Hainan Daily. Wang and the former world 1500m champion Liu Dong are training near Nan-

ice Skating

Britain's Neil Wilson finished

sixth in his qualifying group

to secure a place in tomor

row's short programme in the world figure skating championships in Edmonton Alberta.

Golf

Jim Colbert, of the United States, shot a three-under-par 68 to clinch a two-shot victory over Bob Eastwood in the To-shiba Senior PGA Classic at Newport Beach, California. one place.

gest international master by Mao Dezhen, said the Colbert finished the 54-hole tournament on 201 as Eastwood (64) and Hale Irwin (66) put in strong bids but could not eatch him.

Tennis

Tim Henman, who in Copenhagen last week reached the semi-finals of an ATP event for the third time this year. continues to climb the world rankings. The 21-year-old Oxford player's exploits in Denmark have lifted him from 64 to 58, only 13 places behind the British No. 1 Greg Rusedski, who has dropped

Teamtalk

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Arsenal	96	lpswich To
Aston Villa	11	Leeds Unit
Birm. City	34	Leicester C
Blackburn	21	Liverpool
Bolton	36	Man. City
Brentford	24	Man. Unite
Burnley	31	Middlesbro
Chelsea	08	Milwall
Coursely City	47	Newsonia

Derby County

Hudd. Town

28 Norwich City

05 Nottm. Forest

Pools Forecast

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2 Everton	nobeldmlW v	1
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5 Nothin Forest	v Liverpool	2
6 West Hear	v Man C	1
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7 Benneley	y Southend	1
8 Charling	v Stoke	×
9 C Palace	y Portessouth	×
10 Haddersfield	v Getmatry	1
11 Lelouster	v Miliwali	1
12 Norwich	v Derby	2
13 Port Vale	v Ipswich	-
14 Shaff Utd	v Luton	1
15 Sondorland	v Oldham	1
16 Transpere	v Reading	1
17 Wallord	West Brom	2
SECOND DIVISION		

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SCOTTISH SECOND DIVISION 52 Ayr Utd 53 Ctycle 54 East File

Luke McShane, the 12-year-old Westminster schoolboy, defeated his second Grand master when he outplayed the England international Jonathan Levitt in the UK League sponsored by NatWest Bank at Hertford, writes Leonard Barden. McShane, playing No. 2 board for Richmond won in 42 moves when his checkmate threats forced Levitt to resign and he is now in

contention for the UK's youn-

Martin Henlan, chief execu-tive of the Basketball Players Association, was canvassing his members last night. Tomorrow's All-Star game, due to be broadcast live on Sky, may become the platform for some form of protest. The BPA is concerned that young British players will be swimming against a flood of cheap imports and is furious

Results

LEAGUE OF MELAND: Premier Div-lator: Derry C 1, UCD 1: Shanwook Pirts 2, Cork C 0. OLYMPIC ASIAN QUALIFYING: Group Ac Iraq 3, UAE 1: Japan 4, Oman 1 Golf

GOIT

BAY HILL INVITATIONAL (Crimoto):
Leading Steal source (US unless stated)
276 P Goydos 67, 74, 67, 67, 276 J Maggert 72, 65, 70, 69, 277 T Putzer 69, 70,
69, 69, 279 C Pevan 69, 70, 72, 68; R Gamay 74, 67, 69, 69, M Celcarvecthar 70, 74,
66, 92 B Glissaon 71, 70, 63, 72; M O Masara
67, 72, 69, 71, 200 T Lohman 69, 70, 70, 71,
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G Day 67, 71, 72, 72, 72, 53, 74, 75, 71, 75,
72, M McComber 71, 70, 72, 28, 8, M Mediate
71, 72, 70, 68; S Sancker 72, 69, 71, 68; S
Lowery 70, 75, 68, 68; V Stogh (Fig.) 73, 71, 73, 68,
68; K Triplett 73, 72, 67, 62; D Love 69, 72,
68, 72, C S Bornos 73, 67, 68, 73, P Burko 71,
66, 69, 75, 282, N Faldo (GBI 72, 58, 68, 75, 288, 78, 78) 68, 69, 75, 282 M Faido, (78 P Burel 71, \$6, 69, 75, 282 M Faido, (68) 72, 68, 89, 72, \$ Bikington (Aus) 71, 71, 69, 72, 284 M (Aus) 74, 71, 70, 69, 286 M Picca (21mb) 72, 73, 71, 69, 287 E Eir (SA) 73, 70, 71, 73, 288 F Allem (SA) 74, 69, 72, 73, 290 G Waite (NZ) 76, 60, 72, 74, 293 Y Mzzumaki (Japan) 73, 69, 70, 81.

Tennis

Basketball MBA: Charlote 103, Phoenis 102; Detroit 91, Denver 61; Cleveland 115, Sacratento 64; Indiena 195, Toronto 96; Minecesta 90, Vancouvor 85; Boston 107, New Jersey 106 (2-otr. Portland 112, Dalias 86, LA Labors 7, Orlando 98 Leading standings: East-sen Conferences Alterette: 1. Orlando (M49, L17, Pct.742, GBO); 2, New York (37-55-567-10); 3, Miam (2-53-349-169), Contral 1, 'Chocago (W37, L7, Pct.89), George 1, Uniform (40, 24-625-17); 3, Detroit (37-27-578-20), Wasterin Conferences Midwarth 1, 'San Antonio (W45, L18, Pct.714, GBO); 2, Ush (44-20, 598-18); 5, Houston (42-23-846-4), Pacifica 1, 'Scattle (W49, L14, Pct.778, GBO); 2, LA Labora (40-23-635-9); 3, Phoonix (32-33-492-18), 'Clinched play-off place. 2-ot; Portland 112, Dallas 88, LA Lak 97, Orlando 96 Leading standings: Ea

Bowiş

Sociand bt South Airica 21–20. Section to Assertation is Bolswana 22–16. Engiand in Brazzi 25–8, Fig. bt Generacy 24–16; Staggarer bt Zambia 19–17. Tripheur Section & Ametrida bt brand 15–12. Communey bt Konya 37–11; US of Singapore 28–19. Section & Arguestina bt Gook is 27–14; irelated bt Malaysia 21–11. SA bt Swinzland 55–12. Wales bt Thailand 44–7. Section Commune of Bolswana 27–12. Section Commune of Bolswana 27–12. Sections 1

25-12 Wales bt Thatland 44-7 Section C.
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bi Norfolk is 18-13. NC bt Malaws 35-7.
BRITISH WOMEN'S INDOOR CHAMPIONESIEPS (Liansiti Singlets Senti-finshe England by Wales 21-12, Soothend by
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Finatic England by Wales 25-17. Tripleter
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(201)

UK LEAGUE (Herrford) Nound 7: Bristof

3. British Chess Magazine 5. Richmond &
Slough 7k. Na Flanna 1. Midlands 7; Garldford 5, North Weel 3 Herrford 25, Croydon
5K: Witney 7. Newcasile 1, Wood Green 3K.
South Wales 4. Rowned B: South Wales 4.
Herrford 4: Slough 6, Witney 2: Midlands 6,
Guilding 2: BCM 45, Richmond 3K, North
West 5, Bristol 2: Croydon 6, Na Flanna 2.
Newcasife 2, Wood Green 7, Standings 1
Midland 15 match pts 47 game pts. 2
Slough 14 (451, 3 Witney 12 (30%; 4, Wood
Green 11 (42K) 5, North West 11 (29); 6.
BCM 10 (30%).

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Figure Skating HORD C'SHIPS (Edmonton, Alberta):
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(US) 1.0: 2, D Hollander (US) 2.0; 3,
Zhengen Gun (China) 3.0: 6, N Wrison
(GB) 8.0. M: 1, T Honda (Japan) 1.0: 2, S
Hitten (Cam 2.0: 1, M Tyllesen (Den) 2.0

ice Hockey BRITISH CHAMPONEUM PLAY-OFFS: Besugziole 3. Notingham G. Zuham 5. Neucasile O. Humberside 8. Cardill &

NRILL Ottawa S., Terripa Bary Q; Toronto 4, Vancouver 2; Washington 2, Dallas 1; Chengg S. NY Islanders 1; Detroit 4, Calgary 2; Florida 3, New Jersey Q; Philadelphis 8, San Jose 2; Anatherin 3, St. Louis 1; Colorado 8, Edmonton 1. Leading standings: Eastern Conferences Northeaster 1; Pittaburgh (W41, L24, T4, G750, G4237, Pas5); 2 étantesi (33-27-8-222-72); Atlastics 1, NY Rangers (W36, L19, T14, GF247, GA193, Philadelphis (34-21-13-221-616-81), Western Cassference Cesatratic 1, Toetrox W52, L1, T4, GF253, GA150, Pas59; 2 Chrospo (36-23-11-236-187-63); 3, St. Louis (30-27-12-188-199-72), Pasffer 1, Colorado (W59, L21, T10, GF277, CA202, Pas65; 2 Vancouver (27-23-15-245-245-85); 3, Calgary (25-30-11-207-206-67), "Clinched playoft place."

WELSH WOMEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE: Haverfordwest 2, Colwyn Bay 5; Swansea 4, Cardill Azh 0, Ffinal stamb-lega: 1, Swansea 29; 2, Nowtown 22; 3, Colwyn Bay 21 (Llantair relegated).

Fixtures

(7. Tr uniess stains) Soccer

SOCCET

UEFA CUP: Quarter-final, swood legs
Notin Forest v Bayern Munich (7 45)
FA CARLING PERMEMENTEP: A ston Villa
v Middlesbrough (7 45)
EMSALEIGH LEAGUE: Flest Divisions
Barreley v Huddersliefd (7 45); Crystaf
Palace v Luton (7.45); Ipswich v Oldnan
(7.45); Roading v Southand (7.45); Second
Divisions Bradford C v Nots Co (7 45);
Brentford v Carlisle (7 A5); Chonterheld v
Weaham; Creme v Bornley: Ordord v
Swindon (7 45); Shrews-Sur v Petierborough: Stockporl v Bristol C Third Divlators Bury v Horsford; Chester v Wigari,
Colchester v Cambridge (7 45); Layton Orient v Scarborough (7.45), Lincoto v Barnet
(7.45); Morthampton v Hartispool (7.45);
Rochdslo v Torquaty.
Greenack Morton v Duniermilina.
GRI VALIXINALL CONFERENCE: Farnborough v Dover (7 45); Sallytringe v Runcom (7 45); Welding v Slough (7.45); Southport v MacClestheld (7.45);
UNIBOND LEAGUER Predident's Capic
Second-round replay: Bycton v Gusseloy, Premise Divisions Chories v Prickley,
Ganaborough v Emley, Knowsley v Acorington, Mattock v Withm. First Divisionx
Netherheid v Whatey Bay.
Nets LEAGUE Precise Divisions Boreham Wood v Emiold; Brensley v Chertsey

(7.45): Carshalton v Birthop's Storford (7.45): Dolwich v Hayes: S. Athans v Kngstonian (7.45): Walton & Hersham v Mokasy (7.45). Pirest Divisions Berkhamsted In v Besingstoke in Fit Heybridge Swifts v Aldarshot Tn. Besond Divisions Bettlord In v Besingstoke in Fit Heybridge Swifts v Aldarshot Tn. Besond Divisions Bettlord In v Window To Stratinsh In v Hemet Hampstead: Leatherhead v Dorking Met Police v Hampton: Thour v Saffron Walden East Thurnock Und v Lewer. Exorn Esent Thurnock Und v Lewer. Exorn Tn. Walden Esent V Window To Exorn V Thurnock Und V Hampton: (4.45), lineston v Atherison Birdisend Divisions Evidence in In v Solthul Bor; Hendley Tn v Lewer Und. Sutton Coldiseld v Tarmer? Beathers Divisions Erith & Beredero v Weymouth. Witney Tn v Tothridge Angels.

New Countries League: First Divisions Beredeville V Newcastlo Tn. Eastwood Hanley v Skidmersdate Unitables Berezough v Newcastlo Th. Eastwood Hanley v Skidmersdate Unitables Berezough V Newcastlo Tn. GRIGAY BILLS LEAGUE: Pressier Divisions Ested Mann. English Pressier Divisions Reston Mann. English Pressier Division Farm v Odd Cown Ath. Backwell Unit v Caine Tn. Westbury Unit v Paulton Fars

PONTENS LEAGUE: First Division: Daily v Man Uci (7 0). Sneft Wed v Everton (7.0). Transpare v Botton (7.0). Second Divisions Covernry v 100 (7.2). Gricsby v Asion Villa (7.0).

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First Divisions OPR v Portsmouth (2.0). West Ham v Materali (7.0).

LEAGUE OF WALST Berger v Porticinadog, Corean v Custy v 7thyl. Llansantificad v Briton Ferry (8.0).

RISSM LEAGUE: Coon-Cola Phondist Cup: Final: Citionvillo v Gier-toran LEMNSTER SEMBOR CESP: Sport-final: Bohomisms v Amilone (8.0).

Bohemians v Athlone (8.0) UEFA U-18 CHAMPIONSMIP first logs Scotland v England (7 Rugby Union

CLUBES: Bath v Army (7.15) Lydney v Gloucester (7.0); Macstog v Aberatiery (7.0); Mountain Ash v Aberaron (7.0); Northampton v PAF, Penarth v Cross Keys (7.1) WRU MIDWEEK COMPETITION Somi-Rosh Domant v Carrybilly (7.6).

Rugby League Hockey RESER CUP: 6-mil Buds O Loughtons v Redbridge (7.45)

WORLD CUP CRICKET

Mike Selvey looks back at a tournament that, despite its unwieldy nature, occasionally rose to magnificent heights, and rejoices in the antics of an Arab Sultan and a myopic stumper

A movable run feast spiced with passion

F THIS World Cup has been the biggest money-making exercise in the history of cricket, then it has exacted a price in

Much of the cricket has been good, some of it exceltional. And the final was a dream. But to play the schedwere forced to spend countsubcontinent, waiting in air-ports in the hope that for once a flight might leave on time or closeted under armed guard

M E Waagh

Highs and lows

national Cricket Council have been meeting informally in Lahore this week to discuss this and future tournaments. They are certain to be in agreement that there has to be a rethink to the format, which demanded an interminable round of qualifying matches in order to eliminate

The format was not the res-ponsibility of Pilcom, the joint organising committee, this time round. Rather it was set by ICC agreement and, for what it is worth, an identical format appeared in the pre-

C L Calcon B Zuiderer

Sn Lanka v Australia

Zimbabwe v Kenya UAE v Holland Australia v India

Sn Lanks v India

Sn Lanka v Kenya South Africa v Holland

South Africa v UAE New Zenland v Holland

Australia v West Indies Zimbabwe v West Indies

West Indies v South Africa South Africa v UAE

1993 when it was bidding for this tournament. Already the plans are under way in England for the 1999 competition, with the finan-

cial guarantees in place, informal talks with sponsors, and some consideration given to venues. As now, there will be a dozen teams, which will mean three associate mem-bers qualifying via the ICC Trophy as happened with Hol-land, UAE and Kenya. Neither they, nor any other

associate members, should be made to feel discouraged (Sri

Lanka played in the first two competitions as an associate). If it were possible, there is no reason why future competi-tions should not be expanded. But all the games have to be meaningful, so avoiding the situation where South Africa, for example, can play five ut-terly professional matches, only to falter when it mat-tered. Some might say that is the nature of competition but it should be about excellence as well. Round-robins head-

ing towards a semi-final as happened in Australia and New Zealand last time, were more satisfactory.

It has been hard to avoid the impression out here that the whole competition has peen about India and Pakistan, and no one else. The

recriminations from Pakistan's quarter-final defeat in Bangalore rumble on in Karahappened. The latest sugges-tion, from the eccentric former fast bowler Sarfraz Nawaz, adviser on sport to Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, is that it came at Im-ran Khan's behest. Imran and Sarfraz are not bloodbrothers. But the counterpoint was seen in Calcutta last Wednes day where there was a riotou

reaction to India's defeat. The other day, in Labore, a group of journalists were ap proached by an elderly man, who embarked on an unsolic ited anti-Indian tirade "These people are scum," he said. "They do not know the concept of losing." "Can you then explain," he was asked, why your own national cap tain has not yet been able to return to his house for fear of the stones and rotten eggs?"
When two peoples share that much antipathy, there is little hove that sport can tran

There has been a third, albeit minor, organiser in all this, however, and by contrast they have been wonder ful Sri Lanka, through the sheer vivacity and exuber ance of their play, have ele-vated themselves into the

ment with credit.



On top of the world . . . Sri Lanka's captain Arjuna Ranatunga has his hands full as he is feted with flowers on arrival at Colombo airport 👚 DENTER CRUEZ

cause they marshalled their forces so resourcefully that a was forced to take a back seat. Their semi-final against West Indies, where they twice came back from the precipice to snatch victory in the final over, was the match of the

It has been five weeks of domination by batsmen who have taken advantage of the slow, true surfaces to crack through the line untroubled the quality of Allan Donald is omitted from the South Afri-can side because he is too expensive in conditions where dribbly medium pace can

Against that the rise of the spin howler has continued vated themselves into the most watchable team in the world and thoroughly deserved their moment of history. Australia, too, war-

and metaphorically, was head and shoulders above the rest although the Sri Lankan Vaas has emerged as a bowler of world class.

Meanwhile, batsmen have filled their boots: Mark Waugh, Tendulkar "the \$10 million kid" (is there nothing he does not endorse or adver tise?), Kirsten, Sohail, Lara in the later matches and De Silva. The 15-over rule has played its part, with the Sri Lankans taking full advanday cricket. English county sides will be already scouring the land for "pinch-hitters" but, unless the rules for our domestic one-day internationals mirror those of the World Cup, it will be to no avail.

There have been memora-

ranted a place in the final be- | bowlers Ambrose, literally | fielding of Rhodes; and some ensational catching. There have been great moments, too, such as that when Steve Waugh, in the semi-final, ammoned up the delivery of the tournament to slide past Lara's outside edge and peg back his off stump.

Personally, however, the

two choicest moments were provided by the so-called minnows. In South Africa's open-ing match in Rawalpindi the United Arab Emirates captain Sultan Zarawani, the man walked in to bat against Donald wearing not a helmet but a broad-brimmed sun hat. For a class player it would be risky; for a ferret (one who goes in after the rabbits) it was potty. Donald's first ball hit him square between the eyes, which then appeared to rotate in his head indepen-dently. He carried on, though.

"He's Arab," said a team-

ing moment anywhere recently to rival the catch taken by the Kenyan Tariq Iqbal, a tubby, myopic stumper with a headband and bushy beard, to dismiss Lara. For a embarrassing half an hour he had failed to lay a glove on the ball. Suddenly Lara's edged catch lodged itself in his groin and, after moments fumbling, he emerged trium-phant with the ball. That catch arguably put the seal on the greatest upset in World

But has there been a sport-

manager, has criticised his Board of Control for announc-ing during the World Cup that he and the coach Andy Roberts were to be replaced. "Throughout the subcontinent, and indeed in Australia and in England, the word had gone out that the entire management team had been sacked," said Hall. "I would think the timing of the changes was deplorable."

ICC considers format change

THE International Cricket Council is considering a proposal to drop the quarter- and semi-finals in favour of a round-robin second stage to decide the World Cup in England.
Although the format is

likely to be different, the ICC chairman Clyde Walwould remain the same, with the nine Test-playing nations being joined by three associate members via the ICC Trophy. No decision will be taken

until the ICC's July meeting in London. "We have appointed a committee with representatives from the ICC and member countries tions," Walcott said.

LOWEST TOTALS

End of 100 years' war Botha says Tyson Goydos gains first and as Wigan lunch at RFU is like RoboCop

rugby codes was swept away at a stroke when Wigan at their own game — we'll be looking to play union in a guests of Bath and the Rugby Football Union yesterday. Joe derful chance for us to learn Football Union yesterday. Joe derful chance for us to learn Lydon. Wigan's coach, led a something about the other delegation of players and offi- game of rugby." cials which was greeted by the RFU secretary Tony Hal-lett and then entertained to the suggestion that the games

Wigan contingent which in-cluded the former union play-ers Scott Quinnell, Va'aiga cluded the former union players Scott Quinnell, Va'aiga
Turgamala and Martin Offiah. that they'll have a commer-'I am delighted to welcome you here, that we can become good friends. Nobody will be able to say in future that Twickenham didn't enjoy a rugby league team coming here to play rugby union." Hallett was referring to the

fixture between Bath and Wigan which will be played under union rules at Twick-enham on May 25. That match will follow an unprecedented meeting under league rules at Maine Road in Manchester on May 8. Hall, Bath's director of

rugby, said a top rugby league coach would be engaged by the club this week.

The Wigan contingent were given a short tour of Twickenham by Hailett, who has longterm proposals for staging major rugby league and soc-cer fixtures at the 75,000 allseat ground. The Bath v Wigan fixtures, which will be known as the Rugby Chal-lenge 96, are expected to generate aggregate revenue of

means they are even more in-terested in our game at Twickenham," said Lydon.
"We won't try to take Bath on

Wigan's commercial direc-tor David Bradshaw rejected Hall and Phil de Glanville.

"This is truly an historic occasion. a moment to savour." Hallett told the Wigan contingent which in the suggestion that the games were a commercial stunt, pointing out that both clubs occasion. a moment to savour that the games were a commercial stunt, pointing out that both clubs occasion. a moment to savour the United Kinedon. cial significance and every-body will come out of this a winner," said Bradshaw.

Wigan, who have spent

were knocked out of the Chal-lenge Cup by Salford — which means they are even more in-draw in a practice match. Offiah, who played at Twickenham in the Middle-sex Sevens with Rosslyn Park nine years ago, said: "I don't think Wigan can win the union game but we'll give it our best and try to avoid being embarrassed."

• The Welsh Rugby Union has admitted it may not be able to stop the Neath lock Gareth Llewellyn from transferring to Harlequins if the case goes to court. The WRU regulatory and trusts committee made a rul-

ing on the basis of the IRB's 180-day residential rule which it believed the move would contravene. Quins have said they are ready to issue writs against the WRU and the IRB. Damien Hopley of Wasps will captain England in the Hong Kong Sevens starting on \$2,500 on a scrummaging machine, are being coached in named on Sunday.



to making a trip to London each spring but this year we another out at Twickenham yesterday FRANK BAFON

money for a few painful minutes in the ring with the World Boxing Council heavyweight champion scrambled the brains of the International Boxing Fed-eration title-holder Frans

Botha in Las Vegas yesterday, urites Don Beet.

Tyson's expression did not change when the lumbering South African started to talk a good unification fight

cation fight.
Tyson, who looked awesome against Frank Bruno, is to fight the World Boxing Association champion
Bruce Seldon on July 13.
When, surely, the "Atlantic City Express" hits the buff-

refer to Mike Tyson as
RoboCop but the prosRoboCop but the prosand Riddick Bowe — if he beats Michael Moorer in a fight ordered by the IBF. Botha, who tested posi-tive for steroids after his

title victory over the German Axel Schulz in December, declared: "Tyson is strong and powerful but he has no skill. He's like Robo-Cop. I'm going to beat him to death with style. I'm the white Muhammad Ali."

That he is not.

Bruno, meanwhile, arrived back in Britain ready, like many an MP, to spend more time with his family.

After that, he said, he

Hockey

Holiday hits Reading hopes

READING, the only club athat can achieve a cup and league double this sea-son, will face Havant in their final league match of the season without their prolific scorer Paddy Osborn, who will be on holiday.
Osborn had planned the

holiday for after Reading's final league match, which should have been on Sunday, but England arranged to play India at Milton Keynes that day and the First Division Osborn will be back in time for Reading's HA Cup semifinal against Teddington, the 1995 National League champions, who are endeavouring to FRANK BAFON reach a fifth successive final. | Carenty MY, West

Reading have yet to win the cup but are seeking an indoor-outdoor cup double, meet the 1984 champions East Grinstead in the other semifinal

The matches are scheduled for April 28 in Milton Keynes but the semi-finalists are hoping the final will be played on that date rather than May 12, when the Great Britain play-MA CUP SEMI-FINALS: Old Loughtonians v East Grantead. Redongate v Reading. Makhes at Millon Koynes, April 28.

SCOTTISH CUP SEMI-FINALS: Western v Monzinchill or MIM. Grange v Torbrez W. Maiches April 14 MATIONAL LEAGUE PLAY-OFFS.

qualifies for Masters

David Davies in Orlando on the former maths teacher who found a winning formula

and golf career of Paul Goydos was in crisis. He knew he had to make more than \$33,000 (£22,000) in the last two events of 1995 to retain his US Tour card and avoid having to go back to a place they all dread — the qualifying school.

For a golfer who was averaging no more than \$3,400 per tournament up to that point. it was an extremely tall order. On Sunday, though. Goydos reflected on those moments in the aftermath of winning the Bay Hill Invitational, plus \$216,000 and a place in the US month's time.

"I knew I had to make the money," he said. "It was that or go back to the Q-school or perhaps having to go back to the Nike tour, or even having to go back to teaching maths

"And I played well in those two events when I had to. I think that not only saved my card, it helped me win this wait for my tee time on Sun-day. I'm not used to going to the first tee at two o'clock and during the wait I thought back to those tournaments know that I'd played well." Goydos will be further com-

forted in the future when he Competing against a crowded leaderboard, jammed with names like Corey Pavin. Mark Calcavecchia, Mark

She beat the American O'Meara and Tom Lehman, Goydos produced a 67, his one stroke but both women third such round in the tournament, for a 13-under-par total of 275.

That was sufficient to win by one from Jeff Maggert who, at the time when Goydos was worrying himself silly last year, was relaxing after reaching one of the game's peaks, playing in the Ryder Cup.
"Three 67s," said Goydos,
"that's pretty impressive.

Three rounds without a bo-gey, that's tremendous round this course. Hopefully I'll remember what caused it. Five years ago Goydos, 31.

could not have contemplated doing what he did on Sunday. He was struggling so much with his game that he spent most of his time as a supply teacher, earning \$105 a day. "That's not bad money," he said on Sunday. "Better than you get for selling tees and shoes in a pro shop. I'd go to work at 8.30, stop at 2pm and I'd have from 3pm to dark to work on my game."

Goydos played with the benefit of the fates on Sunday. An errant tee shot at the short 2nd got a freak bounce and finished inches from the hole and he holed from off the green at the 5th.

crashed dead centre into the hole when it might have gone 10 feet past had it missed.
"It's kinda a silly game isn't it?" said Goydos. "At the 11th I missed a five-footer and at the 12th I holed a 25-footer. What can you make of that?" It was, though, a par at the 15th that was one of the most important facets of his win. "I hit a horrible drive and an abysmal second into a trap and came out to 15 feet. When that par-putt went in it

allowed me to play the H₂O holes conservatively." The 16th, 17th and 18th all feature carries over water and, although at this stage Goydos had a three-stroke lead, he knew that it could go at one of those holes. As it was, he was able to play for the fat of the green, put together three pars and win. It had been hard but not that hard. "I'll say this," he said. "Trying to keep fifth graders [10- to 11-year-olds] sitting down — now that's the hardest work I've ever done."

Rernhard Langer, with a closing 66, was the leading European on 281 for a share of Nick Faldo finished with a 73, for 282, a share of 24th place

last year. It was comforting to Two out of three for Neumann

Omann won her second thinks back to how well be LPGA title in three events played during the winning of when she took the Ping-holes. Neumann's seventh his first event on the Tour. Welch Championship in LPGA victory earned her when she took the Ping-Tucson with a fourth-round | \$67,500 (£42,000).

Cathy Johnston-Forbes by

OWEDEN's Liselotte Neu- | chance when she went from 12 under to seven under in the space of four outward holes. Neumann's seventh

Meanwhile the European Women's Tour has announced a new tournament, the European Open, to be played at Hanbury Manor in Hertfordshire on leader Danielle Ammacca-pane, who threw away her fund of £100,000. Twickenham welcomes the old enemy, page 15

SportsGuardian

NEWCASTLE GO TOP AGAIN WITH GOAL-DIFFERENCE BONUS



Heading back to the top . . . Philippe Albert slips the ball into the net at the end of a fine move for Newcastle United's first goal at St James' Park last night

Premiership: Newcastle United 3, West Ham United 0

Asprilla makes his points

Ian Ross

the leadership in the title race. There were goals of real quality by Albert, Asprilla and Ferdinand - the latter they dominated against 10opposition - to ensure that Kevin Keegan's men also returned the top with a better goal difference than their red

The general consensus is that over the past few years | ward to their team having if.

EWCASTLE emphatically converted one of the two games they in and in hand on where they are sometimes its creetly whispered word in what is a compelling Premiership race.

Creetly whispered word in what is a compelling Premiership race.

West Ham's team sheet was a tonic to read. With Ludek Miklosko announced as an in-

It would be tempting fate to ruggest that things are different now but certainly expectations are more soundly based at Upton Park of late. Usually by mid-March the Hammers' fans are looking

over their shoulders. Last night the handful permitted access to Newcastle's gleaming citadel were looking for-

there has never really been a not a major say, then a dis-bad time to come up against creetly whispered word in

pre-ordained way: sometimes it is enough to keep them where they are, sometimes it merely hastens them down the road to change of scenery.

It would be terrotive feet to read. With Ludek Miklosko announced as an injury even as the club bus cut through the fog that shrouded the Tyne, the 38-year-old Les

The man with his finger in Sealey was pressed into service. Even so, Sealey was a spring chicken alongside his touch-line deputy for the evening, the 46-year-old Peter ball is a young man's game can safely be discounted.

West Ham began the first half as they were to finish it, under pressure and strung out along the perimeter of their penalty area like so many fence posts. Just as against Manchester United a fortnight earlier, Newcastle's menace was pronounced very some quite delightful football had no reward — hardly a novelty these days - as three times in the opening 15 min-utes they pushed West Ham to

the dyke was, of course, Sealey, for nights such as these him. For 20 minutes he stopped everything, denying Ferdinand, Ginola and Lee with the casual air of a club player performing on the

Nothing lasts for ever, though, and in the 21st minute, at a point when their patience and that of their supporters was under some strain, Newcastle broke through

rolled it forwards, so dissect-ing West Ham's defence and pushing the ball directly into the path of Philippe Albert.
Albert is a most proficient finisher and his shot was low

Gamely, commendably, West Ham tried to pretend their spirit was unbroken. The outlook was already bleak but the picture was to darken still more in the 31st minute when, perhaps 30 seconds after he had been cautioned for hauling down Ginola, Steve Potts thundered into the Frenchman from be-

hind, lifting him off the turf. Newcastle always seemed likely to exploit their numerical advantage but on a surface made treacherous by incessant rain, their football Having taken delivery of was rather less precise than it Ferdinand's pass some 20 had been in the first period.

As West Ham reluctantly began to turn their attentions to damage limitation — pru-dent under the circumstances - Newcastle punched holes

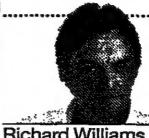
Ferdinand squandered a

Newcastle were home and dry. Beardsley was the architect, slotting forward a pass which Asprilla carried on before driving a shot up and over the advancing Sealey. The floodgates were ajar and after 55 minutes Ferdinand casually knocked in a third after Ginola's corner had been helped on, firstly by Howey and then by Asprilla. Nowey and then by Aspullia.

Newesstle United: Srnicek; Barton (Walson, 58min), Howey. Albert.
Serestord, Beardstey, Lee, Batty, Ginota, Furdinand, Asprilla

Test Hum United: Scaley; Potts, Resper.
Billo, Dedos, Rowland, Samop (Brancker, 77), Williamson, Hughes, Dowle, Dumbreco (Dan, 77), Referees S Lodge (Barnsley).

Standing up for rights and anthems



Richard Williams

AHMOUD ABDUL-RAUF is standing when they play the Star-Spangled Banfore games these days but, although his lips are moving, he is not joining in the

words. He is praying. Last week Abdul-Rauf, a £2-million-a-year guard with the Denver Nuggets, was briefly suspended by the National Basketball Association for refusing to stand alongside his eam-mates during the traditional pre-game playing of the anthem. The ensuing row provoked a debate about the propriety of playing patriotic songs at sports events, and whether athletes should be obliged to participate in such

In fact Abdul-Rauf had been ignoring the anthem since the beginning of the season, sev-eral months and more than 60 games ago. He either stayed in the locker room or sat on the bench while his colleagues obeyed the NBA's requirement that all players and team officials should "stand and line up in a dignified posture along the sidelines or the foulline during the playing of the National Anthem".

His team-mates knew of his refusal to conform but nobody else appeared to have noticed until the issue became public at the beginning of last week, after he had told reporters that he considered the American flag to be "a symbol of oppression, of tyranny", adding: "You can't be for God and for

HE NBA moved swiftly, announcing an indefinite suspension. old Abdul-Rauf, who was called Chris Jackson until he converted to Islam in 1991, expanded on his beliefs. "I am a man who tries to perfect his life on and off the court," he said, "and someone who tries to be sincere in my treatment of my fellow human beings, and sincere in any activity that I undertake. Therefore, it is my understanding that 100 per cent honesty and integrity is the requirement for particl-

pation in the national anthem Everybody had an opinion on this one. Among Abdul-Rauf's critics was a far more celebrated Muslim basketball

to run the House (5,4)

26 Those born on a heartless

27 Plant pests concealed

Down

among primates (7)

28 They find any cut a disaster

in Central America (7)

1 Member finds Scripture

3 Arab leader portrayed as

4 Cryptic clue one academic

5 Preference for early Sisley

6 E-mail Copt received from

7 Tired ceremonial at theatre

seen in collection (5)

Egyptian ruler (9)

opening (5)

used to describe space (9)

mostly readable (7)

2 Harbottle's reckless

commitment (9)

disheartened (5)

layer, Houston's Hakeem Olajuwon, who accused him of misinterpreting the Koran. 'In general the Muslim teaching is to obey and respect," said the man who led the Rock. ets to the championship in the past two seasons. "To be a citizen "But A C Green of the Phoenix Suns, a devout Christian, had a different view: "I hope he sticks with his conviction. This game is nothing but a job. This is not life. You have to have convictions and prin-

VENTUALLY the NBA and Abdul-Rauf reached a compromise. The player will line up with his colleagues but he will not be thinking the same thoughts, "I'll stand," he explained, "but I'll offer a prayer, my own prayer, for those who are suffering — Muslim, Caucasian, African-American, Asian or whoever is in that position, whoever is

experiencing difficulty."
I thought about this as I neard the 3,000 British fans of Frank Bruno jeer the Star-Spangled Banner before the fight in Las Vegas on Satur-day night. The Americans weren't used to such treat-ment. The playing of their anthem before big events -Super Bowl, the Indy 500, the Ryder Cup — is part of the pageantry. Gradually they res ponded on Saturday night by joining in and effectively surely lending moral strength to their fighter. It's my experience that

young countries are most proud of their flags and their anthems. To take an extreme example: when the European football championship begins we shall see Croatia use the opportunity to establish its nationhood in the eyes of the world. The great age of our own nation means that we have grown out of the simple acceptance of national pride: our response is more complex. more ambiguous, which is in some ways healthy but seems IN insult against the sensibi

thems to be played at the end achievements, as they are at the Olympic Games, rather than before the start, when they can be seen as a provocation - and one, moreover, that invariably favours the host nation.

This isn't a simple matter. But I'm glad the NBA and Abdul-Rauf reached an acommodation last week. And I hope the Britons who jeered another nation's anthem on their lesson to heart.

OVER THE NNNS

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Neville brothers ready to match the Charltons

Cynthia Bateman

Manchester United full-back, is expected to join HILIP NEVILLE, the his older brother Gary in the England squad for the game against Bulgaria next week. If the Nevilles make it to the pitch they will join Bobby and Jack Charlton as the only brothers to play together in an officially recognised Eng-

land game this century.

Denis and Leslie Compton, the Middlesex cricketers were in the England soccer ing the war, but war-time games were not recognised for caps. Both were at Arsenal. Leslie won two caps

The Charltons played 28 internationals together between 1965 and 1970, including the 1966 World Cup win. Bobby won 106 caps, two fewer than Bobby Moore's 108, both later surpassed by Peter Shilton's 125, While Jack, lately the Republic of Ireland manager, | injured and Stuart Pearce just

"I would think there is a big possibility of Phil Neville playing alongside his brother Gary," said Sir Bobby yester-day. "They are both good competitors and very good players. Jack and I were always proud to play for Eng-land together and I know these kids would be equally

Gary Neville, 21, has six England caps, winning the first against Japan last sum-mer after only 17 full games in the Premiership. Philip, only just turned 19, has made 16 full league appearances and has recently come into his own, filling the left-back forced to move to the right because of injuries to David May and Paul Parker and

the centre. The left-back position has become a problem for the England manager Terry Venables, with Graeme Le Saux

The lonely hearts columns are full of what

Wilfred Owen called the "eternal reciprocity

of tears". It is the self-descriptions that give

away people's perpetually mistaken idea of

what interests or attracts the opposite sex.

recovering from injury.
Until Saturday, when a calf strain kept him out of the United side that drew at Queens Park Rangers, Philip had played 11 successive games in which United

reached the semi-finals of the FA Cup and closed on Newastle in the Premiership. The Bury boys come from a sporting family. Their father is on the commercial staff of Bury FC, their mother is a former athlete and Philip's twin sister Tracy is in England's Under-21 netball team. "Both boys have admirable temperaments," said the United manager Alex Ferguson. "You like to take young players through slowly but the Neville boys have forced

their way into the side and I had no hesitation in promotwhen his brother moved to ing them despite their youth and inexperience. Phil has played magnificently recently and it must be a question of with Gary for England."

Across offspring (7) 5 Model priest becomes

> 11 Shells to be found at the edge of secondary highway? (9) 12 Opponent fails to finish — a

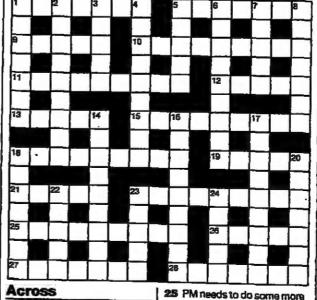
13 The Queen's about to have the anaesthetic (5)

15 Stress speed is as variable

19 Bird with head covered (5)

Guardian Crossword No 20,604

Set by Gordius



1 Balance story about

course counsellor (7) 9 Bill for Windows (5)

10 Kind of sentence copper have to face? (9)

weshout (5)

between the same points (9) 18 Triffling with marriage on the first day (9)

21 Do they sound a false note?

23 One fought mad dog with

16 Rapacious state includes Socialist and Conservative (9)

18 Raising one's hat to a lady may reveal horns (7)

22 Eastern king only not very open raised little hope (5)

ecret

ities of another nation. Personally, I prefer an

8 Concerning the conveyance, it's free (7) 14 Ruined res. rebuilt -- with

17 Statement and description of NHS customer? (9)

20 Writer ran up article with any odd material (7)

23 Despite big losses company

24 2-digit number, Greek style (5)

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